

CITY OF ORLAND

Comprehensive Record Packet: Hidden Treasures, Cats, and Spay/Neuter

January 2023 through January 2026 - Revised to include November 7, 2023 City Council action

Purpose

This revised packet compiles the City Council records previously assembled for Hidden Treasures, feline population reduction, cats, and spay/neuter programs, and adds the November 7, 2023 agenda/staff report and official minutes documenting the City Council's approval of a \$25,000 ARPA-funded contribution to the Countywide feline voucher program.

Record note. The November 7, 2023 materials are inserted chronologically after the September 19, 2023 records. The source pages that follow are reproduced from the official City agenda packet and minutes supplied for this report.

Revised Document Index

Section	Meeting date	Original record included
1	July 18, 2023	City Council minutes - Hidden Treasures funding request
2	September 5, 2023	City Council minutes - Feline Ad Hoc Committee
3	September 19, 2023	Staff report and minutes - draft reimbursement agreement
4	November 7, 2023	Agenda/staff report and minutes - Countywide Feline Task Force; \$25,000 ARPA approval
5	November 19, 2024	Staff report and minutes - ARPA feline population reduction
6	February 4, 2025	City Council minutes - \$25,000 spay/neuter allocation and ad hoc follow-up
7	June 3, 2025	City Council minutes - Hidden Treasures/voucher follow-up
8	November 18, 2025	City Council minutes - Hidden Treasures update
9	January 20, 2026	City Council minutes - public comment requesting ad hoc meeting

Key Findings - Updated

- **July 2023:** Hidden Treasures requested \$35,000 from the City and described a proposed low-cost spay/neuter voucher program.
- **September 2023:** Council appointed members to a feline ad hoc committee and considered a four-month reimbursement agreement capped at \$4,000 per month; the Council did not execute that short-term agreement at the September 19 meeting.
- **November 7, 2023:** Council approved a \$25,000 City contribution to the Countywide feline voucher program using ARPA funding by a 5-0 roll-call vote.
- **November 2024:** City staff reported that Glenn County allocated \$25,000 of its ARPA funds for a cat-and-dog spay/neuter reimbursement program and asked Council for implementation direction.
- **2025-2026:** Council and public comments repeatedly sought implementation and renewed ad hoc committee activity.

November 7, 2023 - Evidentiary Addition

Agenda Item 5.A - Report and Proposal from Countywide Feline Task Force

- The City Manager reported that the Countywide Feline Ad Hoc Committee had met on October 30, 2023. Orland was represented by Vice Mayor Bruce T. Roundy and Councilmember Jeffrey A. Tolley.
- The committee recommendation called for the City of Orland and Glenn County to each contribute **\$25,000** to a voucher/rebate program, for a stated total of **\$50,000 annually**.
- Residents could take a cat or kitten to any veterinarian in Glenn County and pay directly for spay, neuter, or euthanasia services, then seek reimbursement through Glenn County Animal Control for up to **\$100 per animal**, with a limit of **four cats or kittens per household**.
- The disposition of treated cats or kittens, including return to the location where captured, would be left to the resident presenting the animal for veterinary services.
- The committee proposed reconvening annually to review progress and considering the addition of dogs in the future.
- The staff report asked Council to determine the funding source if the City participated, expressly identifying General Fund or ARPA as options. The stated fiscal impact was **up to \$25,000**, with **\$12,500** identified for January-June 2024.

Council Discussion and Action

- Council discussed whether to use ARPA funds or General Fund tax revenues. Vice Mayor Roundy stated that the County had chosen to use ARPA funding.
- The minutes state that the Council decided to pay the full **\$25,000** toward the voucher program and have the committee meet after one year to review the program.
- **Motion:** Councilmember Tolley moved, seconded by Councilmember McDermott, that the City contribute **\$25,000** to the Countywide feline voucher program using **ARPA funding**.
- Councilmember Tolley added that any facility used must be in good standing with the County and City regarding code enforcement and permits.
- **Vote:** Motion carried by roll call **5-0**. Ayes: Tolley, Romano, McDermott, Roundy, and Dobbs. Nays: none.

Record status of the \$25,000. The November 7, 2023 minutes establish a formal City Council authorization and identify ARPA as the funding source. The November 7 records do not, by themselves, document that the \$25,000 was actually disbursed or that reimbursements were issued.

MINUTES OF THE ORLAND CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING HELD JULY 18, 2023

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by Mayor Chris Dobbs at 6:00 PM.

ROLL CALL

Councilmembers present:	Councilmembers John McDermott, Jeffrey Tolley, Matt Romano, Vice Mayor Bruce Roundy, Mayor Chris Dobbs
Councilmembers absent:	None
Staff present:	City Manager Pete Carr; Director of Administrative Services Rebecca Pendergrass; City Clerk Jennifer Schmitke; City Attorney Greg Einhorn; City Engineer Paul Rabo; Police Chief Joe Vlach
Staff present online:	Director of Public Works Ed Vonasek; Fire Chief Justin Chaney

Pledge of Allegiance led by Councilmember Tolley

CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. Warrant List (payable obligations)**
- B. Approve City Council Minutes for July 5, 2023**
- C. Receive and file Arts Commission Minutes from June 21, 2023**
- D. Receive and file Economic Development Commission Minutes from May 9, 2023**
- E. Caltrans Maintenance Agreement (Interstate Beautification Project)**

Action: Councilmember Tolley moved, seconded by Councilmember McDermott, to approve the consent calendar as presented. Motion carried by a voice vote 5-0.

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

A. Quarterly Update: Orland Area Chamber of Commerce

Dee Dee Jackson, Orland Area Chamber of Commerce President, and board member Danielle Hernandez briefly updated Council on Chamber activities over the last few months sharing that there is a possibility of moving into the Glenn Grows building which will help cutdown costs, they have hired a bookkeeper, they are looking to add a treasurer to the board the Chamber and they laid off its only employee which is also helping cut down on costs. Ms. Jackson shared upcoming events that the Chamber is preparing for such as a new 8-week farmers market, the 2nd annual rib cook-off and a Christmas Preview in the downtown area. Ms. Jackson explained that at this time the Chamber is not asking for additional funding. They would like to come back in a few months with more information about their possible building move.

Council members asked questions about the move to Glenn Grows building and about the farmers' market and thanked the board members for bringing their quarterly report.

B. Hidden Treasures Request for Financial Support

City Manager Pete Carr introduced Valerie Johnson and briefly shared background information on Hidden Treasures explaining that Ms. Johnson is requesting financial assistance from the County of Glenn and \$35,000 from City of Orland for unrestricted operational expenses for her spay/neuter/vaccination clinic. Mr. Carr reminded Council that the City annually pays Glenn County \$55,000 for comprehensive animal control services in addition to reimbursing Burnham Veterinary Clinic directly for administering the City's feral cat control program, and that the City waived Hidden Treasures' Conditional Use Permit (CUP) fee in 2022.

Ms. Johnson, director of Hidden Treasures cat sanctuary and Jody Putnam, Hidden Treasures volunteer presented to Council the services Hidden Treasures has provided to the City/County over the last year. Ms. Johnson provided a monthly cost breakdown which is roughly \$15,000 to keep the organization open. Ms. Johnson explained that Hidden Treasures has only been able to remain open due to generous private donations from Glenn County residents but shared that Ms. Putnam has been looking into grants for additional income.

Mayor Dobbs asked for clarification on how much Hidden Treasures is asking for from the County of Glenn and the Cities of Orland and Willows. Ms. Putnam shared that Hidden Treasures is asking the County for a low cost spay/neuter voucher program up to \$25,000 for residents who cannot afford spay/neutering costs and qualify for the program. In addition to the voucher program Hidden Treasures is also asking for 10% of monthly operating cost which is around \$17,000 a year. Ms. Putnam shared that the organization is asking the City for \$35,000 because the operations are in Orland and stated that most cats coming in are from Orland.

Ms. Putnam spoke about the public health issues that come with the increasing number of stray cats/kittens such as tapeworm, ringworm, roundworm, cat scratch fever, respiratory issues, and rabies.

Mayor Dobbs asked City Manager Carr if he knew of any other cities that helped with similar programs or organizations. Mr. Carr cities generally do not pay for the service out of tax revenue funds. Mr. Dobbs shared that he spoke with Supervisor Carmon, and they discussed a possibility of collaboration between Willows, Orland, and the County. Mayor Dobbs shared that he appreciates the services the organization is providing the community of Orland but stated normally cities take care of water, sewer, trash, not animal services. Mayor Dobbs stated he would like to see what all three agencies come up with for support. Ms. Johnson liked Mayor Dobbs' idea, stating it was very reasonable to see what all three agencies could do together.

Vice Mayor Roundy shared his support in working with the County and City of Willows to work on a plan to help provide support for Hidden Treasures.

Councilmember Romano asked questions about Hidden Treasures revenues and expenditures, discussed with Ms. Johnson and Ms. Putnam the growth/capacity of Hidden Treasures and what kind of solution the organization would need to continue their services.

Councilmember Tolley shared he is supportive of Hidden Treasures but stated that he is looking out for the citizens of Orland when it comes to approving the City spending taxpayers' dollars. Councilmember Tolley asked Hidden Treasures to look into cutting back expenses to help save money on operations and recommended that the organization look into getting more volunteers and donations.

Councilmember McDermott shared he is interested in the voucher program and stated he is thankful for what they do.

Councilmember Romano acknowledged there is a feral cat issue in Orland and expressed his concern about the issue of public safety and public health for residents. Councilmember Romano shared he is grateful for all the services Hidden Treasures is providing the community, he just wanted clarifications on how the City can help the organization long term. Councilmember Romano asked the organization to come back to Council with accurate numbers showing what it takes to run the organization so that the Cities and County can come together to come up with a solution to help.

Mayor Dobbs clarified to Ms. Johnson and Ms. Putnam to bring information and numbers the organization would be asking for from the City for a short-term solution, once the City has the information they can then join with the County and City of Willows to work on a long-term solution.

Heather LeDonne, Hidden Treasure supporter shared her experiences with helping spay/neutering stray cats.

Susan Smith, Orland resident, asked about the environmental impact that come from feral cats.

C. City Council discussion and possible action to award a construction contract for the City of Orland Emergency Groundwater Resource Project – Phase 2B

City Engineer Paul Rabo reminded Council that the City of Orland is working with State of California Department of Water Resources (DWR) to lay out, design, and construct improvements to the City's water system. The primary goal for the project is to supply residents [with dry wells], inside and outside of City limits, with a safe and reliable source of drinking water. The proposed project improvements include a new municipal groundwater well, water storage tank, water mains, fire hydrants and residential water services.

The second portion of the project, which was advertised on June 13, 2023, is Phase 2B located west of interstate 5 and north of Newville Road. Mr. Rabo shared a copy of the project area map and explained that the project includes the installation of approximately 1.8 miles of water main, 29 water connections, fire hydrants and other water system appurtenances. The estimated construction cost of the project was \$1,895,440.41, the lowest bid that was received was \$1,392,691.00 and the highest bid that was received was \$5,674,719.00.

Mr. Rabo shared that City staff evaluated all bids on July 11, 2023, and determined the lowest responsible bidder to be Visinoni Brothers, Inc. from Chico, with the low bid of \$1,392,691.00. Mr. Rabo stated that Visinoni Brothers, Inc has successfully completed the installation of other subdivisions in Orland such as Villa La Michele, Blair Estates and Linwood Park unit 2.

Councilmember McDermott asked if the City had received any bid protests. Mr. Rabo stated there was no protest on this bid packet. Councilmember McDermott asked City Manager Carr if the project comes under budget could the City extend the project into other areas of need in Orland. Mr. Carr shared that the possibility of adding additional water mains was not likely but adding people who are along the current water main extension route who are on the waiting list is a possibility.

Vice Mayor Roundy stated he was in favor of awarding Visinoni Brothers, Inc. the bid and thanked the City Engineer for all he is doing on the project.

Action: Vice Mayor Roundy moved, seconded by Councilmember Tolley, to approve the City Council awarding a construction contract for the City of Orland Emergency Groundwater Resource Project – Phase 2B project to Visinoni Brothers, Inc.; and to authorize the City Manager to execute the contract and all other documents necessary to complete the project. Motion passed by a voice vote 5-0.

D. Contract Services for Infrastructure Grant Application

City Manager Pete Carr recapped with Council that during the April 18th budget discussion meeting, City Staff and Council discussed how the City has been applying for multiple grants and has had impressive success in many departments, projects, and programs. Mr. Carr shared that the one area that the City has not found success in is with-in house efforts to obtain federal and state transportation infrastructure grant funding. Mr. Carr stated that these types of grants tend to be highly competitive and complex. Mr. Carr shared that currently the City could possibly apply for multiple grant sourcing under the 2023 Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant (MPDG). Benefit – Cost analysis has been a stumbling block for the City.

Mr. Carr reminded Council that they approved grant writing allocations in multiple departments budgets, and shared that if Council decided to, they could group all the allocations of \$10,000 together to help hire qualified grant-writing organizations to help the City work on federal grants. Mr. Carr stated that he contacted 3 CORE to help seek qualified grant-writing firms and they recommended two organizations. Mr. Carr briefly spoke about each organization 1.) Mark Thomas & Company, a consultancy that has worked on a lot of federal transportation grants (2 of which have been funded) and 2.) Morrison Company has done a lot of grants for local jurisdictions, but they have not done any federal transportation grants. Mark Thomas & Co's bid was for \$45k, Morrison Co bid was for \$25-30k, and a third consultant was contacted by the City but they declined to submit a proposal.

Mr. Carr stated that staff recommends that the City apply for federal grant partnership with the City and Caltrans to fund the Orland Corridor Modernization Project which would include design/building for widening the Newville Road overpass at i-5, implementing traffic control measures at Newville/Ninth/Tehama, implementing the Walker Streetscapes Master plan and associated parts of the OJ500 Caltrans plan for 2025-2026.

Councilmember Romano shared that he researched both grant-writing organizations and stated he is leaning toward Mark Thomas & Company after seeing their work. Councilmember Romano stated the City can't get the grants without a plan and hiring a professional grant writing service seems to be the step to help the City. Councilmember Romano asked if the additional freeway exit at 618/South Street could be included in the Orland Corridor Modernization project.

Councilmember McDermott asked if the City would own the rights to the grant application information that the organization provided to the City. City Attorney Greg Einhorn and Assistant City Manager Rebecca Pendergrass clarified that the City would own the product that the organization produced for the City. Councilmember McDermott stated the City will never get the money if they don't apply and was in agreeance with Councilmember Romano that Mark Thomas & Company looked to be the best choice for the City of Orland.

Councilmember Tolley asked with all the studies going on, would the City have a higher probability of getting a grant. Mr. Carr shared that it is helpful. Councilmember Tolley shared he believes Mark Thomas & Company looks to be the best choice.

Mayor Dobbs asked what grant approval rates currently are. Mr. Carr shared that it is less than 10%.

Vice Mayor Roundy stated his support for hiring a professional grant-writing organization, sharing it would be a great investment for the City and money well spent.

Action: Councilmember Romano moved, seconded by Vice Mayor Roundy, to award a grant-writing proposal to Mark Thomas & Company and authorize the City Manager to execute it, or direct staff. Mr. Carr clarified that he would ask the consultant if the other intersection could be included. Motion passed by a voice vote 5-0.

ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS

Councilmember Romano:

- Attended two ambulance meetings (Westside Ambulance Co and Glenn County) and is currently gathering information, suggested adding EMS topic to a future agenda for Council to discuss numbers and funding;
- Asked about status of the Maverik off-ramp/intersection. Mr. Rabo shared that demo/construction is due to begin July 24th;
- Asked if Quiet Creek has provided a preliminary map, Mr. Rabo stated there must be a layout when the application is submitted and shared he knew there was some issues with the map that they were needing to correct.

Councilmember McDermott:

- Announced that the July 20th Planning Commission meeting has been cancelled;
- Announced he will be absent at the August 1st Council meeting.

Councilmember Tolley:

- Nothing to Report.

Vice Mayor Roundy:

- Will be attending the Transportation and Transit meeting July 20th;
- Attended the July Groundwater Sustainability agency meeting July 17th;
- LAFCo's July meeting has been cancelled.

Mayor Dobbs

- Nothing to Report.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:25 PM

Jennifer Schmitke, City Clerk

Chris Dobbs, Mayor

MINUTES OF THE ORLAND CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING HELD SEPTEMBER 5, 2023

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by Mayor Chris Dobbs at 6:00 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance

ROLL CALL

Councilmembers present:	Councilmembers Jeffrey Tolley, Matt Romano, John McDermott, Vice Mayor Bruce Roundy, Mayor Chris Dobbs
Councilmembers absent:	None
Staff present:	City Manager Pete Carr; Director of Administrative Services Rebecca Pendergrass; City Clerk Jennifer Schmitke; Public Works Director Ed Vonasek; Police Chief Joe Vlach; City Attorney Greg Einhorn
Staff present online:	None

CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. Warrant List (payable obligations)**
- B. Approve City Council Minutes for August 15, 2023**
- C. Second Reading: Ordinance 2023-04 Late Fee Waiver**
- D. Treasurer's Report**
- E. Annual Posting of Salary Schedule**
- F. 2023 Volunteer Fire Capacity Grant Resolution**
- G. Receive and file Library Commission Minutes from May 8, 2023**
- H. Receive and File Public Works & Safety Commission Minutes from August 8, 2023**
- I. Receive and File Planning Commission Minutes from May 18, 2023**
- J. Receive and File Planning Commission Minutes from June 15, 2023**

Mayor Dobbs stated City Staff pulled check number 57712 written to Cal Signal to be reviewed further by City Staff.

Councilmember Tolley asked to pull item 4.E. to discuss.

Action: Councilmember Roundy moved, seconded by Councilmember McDermott, to approve the consent calendar without item 4.E. Motion carried unanimously by a voice vote 5-0.

Councilmember Tolley shared his concerns that item 4.E. Annual Posting of Salary Schedule was placed on the consent calendar and stated it is an important item that should be discussed in more detail before voting upon it. Councilmember Tolley asked what changes have been made to the salary schedule since the budget was passed in June 2023. Mr. Carr shared that he is recommending a change to the Director of Administrative Services/Assistant City Manager (ACM) salary range to better reflect the labor market for that position. Mr. Carr stated that the salary schedule is in the public domain, and it is posted on the City website. Councilmember Tolley stated he is not opposed to a pay raise for the position but explained that he felt the amount was too high.

Mayor Dobbs shared that the City needs to stay competitive on salaries.

Action: Councilmember McDermott moved, seconded by Vice Mayor Roundy, to approve item 4.E. from the consent calendar. Motion passed by a voice vote 4-1.

Ayes: Councilmembers Romano, McDermott, Vice Mayor Roundy and Mayor Dobbs

Noes: Councilmember Tolley

Councilmember Tolley stated for the record he is following the citizens' will.

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

A. ARPA Update

Mr. Carr provided Council an update on American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) projects list and briefly spoke about progress and status of each project. Mr. Carr shared that a few projects have not started yet but most ARPA programs and projects are completed or underway. Mr. Carr also stated that no projects are currently overspending.

Mr. Carr spoke with the Council about the Community e-Gift Cards (Queen Bee Bucks), sharing sales stats. Mr. Carr asked Council to decide if they want to sunset, hibernate, or add more funding to the program.

Councilmember Romano asked if there was any information about the match with the County for the ball field updates. Mr. Carr stated the City has not received an official agreement with the County yet.

Councilmember Tolley stated that since the Queen Bee Bucks are phasing out why not put the money into a skatepark, since not all people play soccer, softball, and baseball. Vice Mayor Roundy shared that the skatepark is on a project list, that once a site and funding is found will be brought back forward to Council. Councilmember McDermott shared that the people who filled out the skatepark survey wanted open spaces and the Council should make that a priority.

Orland resident and small business owner Terrie Barr shared her experience and voiced her concerns on how ARPA has had limited impacts on local small businesses. Ms. Barr suggested that any additional ARPA money may have a bigger impact if it was put into a marketing program that showed new customers coming in.

Vice Mayor Roundy remarked that ARPA money was not only for businesses that had a loss during Covid but also for City's loss of revenue. Vice Mayor Roundy stated that the Council at that time chose to administer the funds in multiple ways instead of one project and shared that he felt the City used the funds wisely and it helped the City make up any lack of sales tax.

Mayor Dobbs and Councilmember Tolley shared that they thought it was a good idea to table this item and bring this item back on a future agenda.

Councilmember Romano pointed out that multiple items on the Use of ARPA Funds list are projects that will help local businesses.

B. Replacement of Enterprise Software

Director of Administrative Services/ACM Rebecca Pendergrass brought to Council a proposal from Tyler Technologies to replace the current enterprise software (MOMs), Corbin Willits System, Inc. Ms. Pendergrass shared that the City has been using its current software since 1974 and is looking to upgrade the software because it is very antiquated. Ms. Pendergrass spoke about the outward-facing

benefits for the community/water and sewer account customers, went over what the software included for staff and spoke about the startup costs and ongoing annual costs. Ms. Pendergrass shared that City staff has been trying to reach out to multiple software companies to get additional proposals, but staff has received no additional bids.

Councilmember Romano asked about the current costs the City pays with MOMs. Ms. Pendergrass shared the annual costs and explained how the proposed costs would be allocated for the new software.

Councilmember Tolley commented that the antiquated software and limited customer service can be bad for staff and City customers, and he is open to changes but would like to hear from other software companies before making a final decision. Councilmember McDermott inquired about the efficiency of both programs for City Staff. Vice Mayor Roundy shared he felt an update and upgrade for the citizens of Orland and City staff is much needed.

Action: Councilmember McDermott moved, seconded by Vice Mayor Roundy, to direct staff to engage in replacing the current enterprise software with Tyler Technologies. Motion passed by a voice vote 4-1.

Ayes: Councilmembers Romano, McDermott, Vice Mayor Roundy and Mayor Dobbs

Noes: Councilmember Tolley

Undeveloped City Property 517 Walker Street

City Manager Pete Carr presented to Council potential utilization of $\frac{3}{4}$ acre of bare land the City purchased in December 2018, 517 Walker Street. Mr. Carr shared that the property was originally planned for future development as a Honeybee Discovery Center (HDC) museum and visitor center, but the City has not entered into a lease agreement for the land with HDC and now it appears that HDC may be refocusing its discovery center vision to an alternate location.

Mr. Carr stated there is a pending State grant for a "Pollinator Park" which would provide vegetation, pedestrian walkways, seating, and an outdoor plaza-type gathering space, with a small portion proposed for electric vehicle charging infrastructure.

Mr. Carr invited Council to consider options and preferred alternatives for this key-location property if the HDC chooses to relocate. Mr. Carr shared a few suggested options for this property have been city hall facilities, parking, and recreational amenities.

Councilmember Tolley would like to wait on making any decision on this property until HDC makes their final decision. Councilmember Tolley asked about selling to private developers.

Councilmember Romano suggested planting the pollinator garden now, since trees take a while to grow, make a pad and park and then add more later.

Councilmember Roundy likes the idea of a Pollinator Park and a new bigger City Hall in that location. Councilmember Roundy stated that the building could include additional office spaces for rent and it would open the City Hall side of the current building up for Police to expand.

Orland resident Terrie Barr spoke to Council about Orland's branding as the "Queen Bee Capital" and how the City has grown over the past few years. Mrs. Barr presented potential suggestions for the City to consider for the undeveloped property on Walker Street, including pollinator gardens, an educational kiosk or visitor center.

Orland resident Trish St. Evans shared potential ideas on what she would like to see for the property on Walker Street including a charging station, visitor center, City Hall or pollinator garden.

No Council actions.

C. Proposal for Electric Vehicle Charging Stations

City Manager Pete Carr presented a proposal for the installation of electric vehicles (EV) charging stations in the downtown area. Mr. Carr shared that the objective is to encourage highway travelers to visit the downtown shops and restaurants while recharging their vehicle.

Mr. Carr shared that Rivian has been the only EV vendor to respond to the City's solicitations and shared a diagram depicting proposed location of EC spaces and equipment. Mr. Carr stated that the proposed agreement with Rivian would be a lease of parking spaces, with 6 charging stations now and possibly 6 more later.

Councilmember Tolley stated he does not feel ready to move forward on this item just yet, but he does like that Rivian would now offer accessibility to many different car manufacturers. Vice Mayor Roundy shared his support for the proposal.

Orland resident Carolyn Pendergrass asked if there were currently any State or Federal mandates that cities must install EV parking. Mayor Dobbs explained that currently there are no mandates. Ms. Pendergrass asked what would happen if a non-electric vehicle parked in one of the spaces. Mr. Carr shared that the City has not discussed how enforcement of the spaces would be taken care of.

Trish St. Evans asked about the six additional spaces and stated she saw this as the community working together and likes the idea of people being able charge their EV and then enjoy Pollinator Park or stop into one of the downtown businesses to spend money.

Orland resident Christine Stifter asked if staff or Council has talked with downtown businesses owners to find out if the businesses are for or against the EV chargers. Mayor Dobbs stated he has spoken with many downtown businesses who have all been in favor of the charging spaces. Ms. Stifter shared her concerns for taking up spaces in front of downtown businesses.

Orland resident Brandon Smith asked about the aesthetics of the chargers. Staff presented images of what the chargers and signage would look like.

Terrie Barr asked about the sound the EV equipment makes. Chelsea Williams, Rivian spokesperson stated the sound from the equipment has been described as white noise as power is going through station. Ms. Barr shared her concerns with adding a new City Hall building, parking for City employees, EV charging equipment and a pollinator park on the vacant lot. Ms. Barr suggested the City move the charging stations to the City owned property on Hwy 99.

Councilmember Tolley suggested tabling the item for now.

Glenn County resident Troy LeDonne shared his opinion on the EV charging station and stated his concerns with the noise the equipment will make and did not feel the EV charging space on the vacant lot would get utilized by an electric truck pulling a trailer.

Mayor Dobbs shared he would like to review the contract first and allow for more public comments once the agreement is available.

Councilmember Romano stated Rivian wants to invest in this community and shared he believes it will bring people to the downtown area.

Ms. Barr stated she has invested in Orland her entire life and shared her concerns for the noise the equipment will make and the effects it will have on the downtown business owners.

Action: Councilmember McDermott moved, seconded by Vice Mayor Roundy, to approve the proposal and authorize the City Manager to execute the agreement and project. Motion passed by a voice vote 3-2.

Ayes: Councilmembers Romano, McDermott, Vice Mayor Roundy

Noes: Councilmember Tolley and Mayor Dobbs

D. Appointment to Feline Ad Hoc Committee

Director of Administrative Services/ACM Rebecca Pendergrass presented to Council the opportunity for one or two Councilmembers to represent Orland on the Glenn County Feline Ad Hoc Committee. Ms. Pendergrass shared that the Glenn County Board of Supervisors recently established the temporary single-focus (ad hoc) committee to explore ways to address the issues of feral cats and services to control the feral population.

Mayor Dobbs asked the Council for volunteers to join the committee. Councilmember Tolley and Vice Mayor Roundy both stated their interest in joining the Committee.

Willows resident/Hidden Treasures Board member Janice Smith stated her appreciation for Councilmembers joining the Committee but shared that Hidden Treasures Sanctuary is running out of money/time to stay open and they need help now.

Orland resident Jody Putnam reminded Council that she has given them all the information that they requested. Ms. Putnam suggested a solution to the problem could be that the City enact a spay/neuter ordinance.

Orland resident Alane Allison shared her experience with rescuing cats in Glenn County and Orland and expressed the need for help now.

Director of Hidden Treasures Valerie Johnson thanked the Council for hearing the concerns of all the volunteers and shared information on the dire conditions at the clinic.

Troy LeDonne asked the City to take care of the cat problem.

Vice Mayor Roundy stated the Council understands it is a problem and everyone agreed to help with short term and long-term problems. Vice Mayor Roundy shared that the ad hoc committee would help with the long term and challenged the Council to come up with a solution to help the sanctuary with the short-term problem.

Ms. Johnson asked the Council for help in the interim to keep the Sanctuary open.

Councilmember Tolley stated he is supportive of the sanctuary and the services they provide but shared fiscally the amount of money it is taking to run the sanctuary is too much. Councilmember Tolley shared he didn't want to see taxpayers pay for the services but would prefer to see citizens who use the services pay for them.

Councilmember Romano stated that cats are a public safety problem. Councilmember Romano shared he can't wrap his head around the sanctuary monthly costs but explained if there is a legitimate bill for rent or veterinarians bills the \$40-\$60k they are requesting may help them till the end of the year.

Mayor Dobbs shared he would be interested in covering rent and utilities but not just giving \$40-60k. Vice Mayor Roundy and Mayor Dobbs asked what the sanctuary would need for 3-4 months on rent and utilities.

Ms. Putnam stated the sanctuary would need \$25k-\$30k.

City Attorney Greg Einhorn stated that this item is not on the agenda as an action item. He stated that Council can direct staff to draft an agreement with specific parameters so that what is approved is not just dollar figures but a contract. Council agreed this should come back with a dollar figure that Council and Hidden Treasures Sanctuary can both agree on at the next Council meeting.

ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None

CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS

Councilmember Romano:

- Nothing to Report.

Councilmember McDermott:

- Nothing to Report.

Councilmember Tolley:

- Nothing to Report.

Vice Mayor Roundy:

- Attended the ribbon cutting at McDonald's;
- Attended the ribbon cutting at Purpose Place;
- Shared he attended a fun presentation at the Art Center April 1, 2023;
- Will miss Transportation and Transit meeting September 19th;
- Will be attending the LAFCo meeting for September;
- Will be attending the Water Authority meeting;

Mayor Dobbs

- Nothing to Report.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:50 PM

Jennifer Schmitke, City Clerk

Chris Dobbs, Mayor



CITY OF ORLAND STAFF REPORT
MEETING DATE: September 19, 2023

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council

FROM: Greg Einhorn, City Attorney

SUBJECT: Draft Reimbursement Agreement: Hidden Treasures

The Council's September 5, 2023 agenda included an item entitled: "Appointment to Feline Ad Hoc Committee."

Public discussion on this item included members of Hidden Treasures. Hidden Treasures provides feral cat services in Glenn County, including services in the City of Orland, as an independent non-profit and not under contract with the City. Hidden Treasures represented that its operational expenses, including rent and utilities, are \$15,000 per month.

During that public discussion, Hidden Treasures presented a funding request to the City Council. Because funding was not on the agenda for action, the Council generally discussed the matter, and directed staff to prepare an agreement consistent with the Council's discussion.

Presented here is an agreement for consideration.

Payment by the City will be in the form of reimbursement upon presentation of written, incurred billings. The City reserves the right to decline to pay on any billing. The monthly amount is not to exceed \$4,000. The agreement is limited to four months. The agreement may be terminated at any time.

RECOMMENDATION:

Discussion, action on the agreement, or further direction to staff.

MINUTES OF THE ORLAND CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING HELD SEPTEMBER 19, 2023

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by Mayor Chris Dobbs at 6:00 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Councilmember Romano

ROLL CALL

Councilmembers present:	Councilmembers Jeffrey Tolley, Matt Romano, John McDermott and Mayor Chris Dobbs
Councilmembers absent:	Vice Mayor Bruce Roundy (listened via Zoom)
Staff present:	City Manager Pete Carr; Director of Administrative Services Rebecca Pendergrass; City Clerk Jennifer Schmitke; Library Director Jody Meza; City Engineer Paul Rabo; Police Chief Joe Vlach; City Attorney Greg Einhorn
Staff present online:	Public Works Director Ed Vonasek; Recreation Director Joe Fenske; Fire Chief Justin Chaney

CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. Warrant List (Payable Obligations)
- B. Approve City Council Minutes for September 5, 2023
- C. Agreement for Maintenance of City Water Lines in County Roads
- D. Eighth Street Speed Table Removal
- E. Agreement for Glenn County Allocation of American Rescue Plan Act funds to Libraries
- F. Glenn County Health and Human Services Agency Agreement for Library Services
- G. City Council discussion and possible action to award a consultant contract for the City of Orland Emergency Groundwater Resource Project – Multiple Phases

City Attorney Greg Einhorn reminded Council that they are back to following pre-Covid rules and explained that Vice Mayor Roundy may observe as a member of the public, but because he was not present, he could not participate in the meeting.

Action: Councilmember Tolley moved, seconded by Councilmember McDermott, to approve the consent calendar as presented. Motion carried by a voice vote 4-0.

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

A. Draft Reimbursement Agreement: Hidden Treasures

City Attorney Greg Einhorn presented a funding agreement for the Council to review. The short-term funding agreement was requested after a public discussion with Hidden Treasures Sanctuary, an independent non-profit organization that provides feral cat services in Glenn County and Orland and which requested funding from the City to help with operational expenses, including rent and utilities. Mr. Einhorn explained each term of the agreement.

Hidden Treasures Board Member Jan Smith shared her concerns and asked Council to consider giving to the Sanctuary for their basic necessities.

Director of Hidden Treasures Valerie Johnson thanked the Council for listening to their needs and concerns. Ms. Johnson shared her worries for not being able to continue to help with the cat issue that is going on in Glenn County. Ms. Johnson shared the sanctuary has cut a lot of costs and she has been looking into using personal property for an additional cat facility in the County.

Councilmember Tolley moved to “not pay a single cent”. Without a second the motion failed.

Council discussed concerns, shared their opinions, and asked Hidden Treasures Sanctuary Board President, Valerie Johnson questions. Council concluded that they support and appreciate the services Hidden Treasures provides but at this time they do not feel like the business model is supportable and that taxpayers should not have to take on this burden. The Council decided to wait on signing a short-term support agreement until the Countywide Feline Ad Hoc committee meets to discuss the matter.

B. Consider Regulation of Alcohol at Library Park

City Manager Pete Carr advised Council that Mayor Dobb suggested consideration of prohibiting/regulating the use of alcohol in Library Park. Mr. Carr spoke about regulations that apply to all parks, regulations that apply to specific parks, and explained when regulations are infractions and when they are misdemeanors.

Mr. Carr asked for specific directions to help City staff draft an ordinance on this topic. Mayor Dobbs shared that he brought this suggestion forward to help Orland Police Department regulate some of the disruptive activities that have been happening in Library Park. Mayor Dobbs stated he would like to allow special use permits to allow for special events to serve alcohol in the parks. Councilmember Tolley asked Police Chief Vlach his opinion on the regulations. Chief Vlach gave some suggestions for Council to think about when putting together regulations they would like to see in a park ordinance. Councilmember McDermott mentioned the Orland Volunteer Fire Department (OVFD) has frequent calls to Library Park for overdosing or alcohol related issues but no calls for the same issues at other parks. Councilmember Romano stated Library Park should be a place that kids, families, and the elderly can come to feel safe and can relax.

Library Director Jody Meza shared that the Library is also a cooling center, a clean air center, and they host many children events and family activities. Ms. Meza shared that she has seen an increase in incidents at Library Park and inside the Library where she has had to ask law enforcement to help assist in the situations. Ms. Meza stated she felt that Library staff and patrons would be in support of an alcohol regulation at Library Park.

Orland resident Trish St. Evens appreciated Council bringing this item forward to get addressed before the problem gets too bad.

Council directed staff to move forward with drafting an ordinance.

Vice Mayor Roundy shared his experience with the people that live in the park and stated that the neighbors across the street from the park do not feel safe in their own homes.

C. Proposal for Streetscape Phase 1

City Manager Carr shared background on the Streetscapes project that was adopted in 2017/2018. Mr. Carr explained that the Streetscape Master Plan envisions improvements to Walker Street between Second and Sixth Streets in pedestrian facilities, drainage, and aesthetics. Mr. Carr stated City Council

set aside \$200,000 for streetscapes from its American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding, and Caltrans is implementing road improvements on State Route 32 (SR32).

Mr. Carr provided visual design examples for lamp posts, benches, trash receptacles and a map of proposed lamp post placement on 4th and 5th Streets and a budget.

Mr. Carr shared that he has met with interested business owners several times over the past year, exploring options consistent with the master plan and most recently presented the concept examples to the Economic Development Commission (EDC) to get their feedback on items.

Council discussed the concept ideas and asked questions about the project. Mayor Dobbs suggested partnering with Orland High School FFA program to see if they could work on benches for the project. Councilmember McDermott asked about the bulb outs and decorative patterns on the 4th Street from the Streetscapes plan. Councilmember Romano shared that he is ready to approve Phase 1 of the Streetscapes plan.

Ms. St. Evans shared her experience with purchasing FFA metal projects and stated incorporating the students work would be an asset.

Council directed staff to bring this agenda item back to Council at the next meeting, allowing citizens time to provide feedback back to the Council.

D. City Council discussion and possible action to award a construction contract for the City of Orland Emergency Groundwater Resource Project–Phase 2A

City Engineer Paul Rabo reminded Council that the City of Orland is working with the State of California Department of Water Resources (DWR) to lay out, design and construct improvements to the City water system. The primary goal for this project is to supply residents (with dry wells), inside and outside City limits, with a safe and reliable source of drinking water.

The third portion of the project, which was advertised August 14, 2023, is Phase 2A located south and east of the City limits. The project includes the installation of approximately 5.1 miles of water main, 114 water service connections, fire hydrants and other water system appurtenances. The estimated construction costs of the project were \$5,414,800.00, the lowest bid was received was \$4,472,651.00 and the highest bid received was \$6,814,108.00.

Mr. Rabo shared that City staff evaluated all bids on September 12, 2023, and determined the lowest bidder to be Visinoni Brothers, Inc from Chico, with the low bid of \$4,472,651.00. Mr. Rabo shared that Visinoni Brothers, Inc has successfully completed the installation of many other subdivisions in Orland such as Blair Estates and Linwood Park unit 2 and was awarded the contract for Phase 2B of the Orland Emergency Groundwater Resource Project. Mr. Rabo provided a pipeline map of the project and the final bid summary.

Council asked questions about adding additional connections, the number of hydrants in the project, how Visinoni was chosen and about how many more phases are pending in this project.

Action: Councilmember Tolley moved, seconded by Councilmember Romano, to approve the City Council awarding a construction contract for the City of Orland Emergency Groundwater Resource Project – Phase 2A project to Visinoni Brothers, Inc.; and to authorize the City Manager to execute the contract and all other documents necessary to complete the project. Motion passed by a roll call vote 4-0.

Ayes: Councilmembers Tolley, Romano, McDermott, and Mayor Dobbs
Nays: None

E. Economic Development Commission Vacant Position

Director of Administrative Services/ACM Rebecca Pendergrass reminded Council that at the August 15th meeting City staff announced a vacancy on the Economic Development Commission (EDC), Council directed staff to advertise the vacant seat as well as contact the prior applicants that were interested. Ms. Pendergrass shared that the seat was someone who resides within City limits, there were three applicants for the seat but only two qualified. Ms. Pendergrass asked if the Council would like to appoint the Commission member or have the two qualified applicants interviewed for the position. Council directed staff to set up interviews with the two applicants.

ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Orland resident Marjorie Palmer stated her concerns with the removal of speed bumps on Eighth Street. Ms. Palmer shared that stop signs and street name signs are missing in her neighborhood. Public Works Director Vonasek shared this project is on a list to get done, but no date is set yet.

Orland resident Robert Townsend shared his concerns about the removal of speedbumps and stated stop signs may help but hopes more police patrol in the area can help with the speed in the area.

Mayor Dobbs shared he would like to see striping on Eighth Street on a future agenda. The council concurred. Councilmember Romano stated he would like to see similar striping to the East Street project, with bike lanes and painted bulb outs.

Chief Vlach invited the Council and citizens to come to the next Public Works and Safety Commission meeting on October 10th, where possible new stop signs will be discussed.

Orland resident Delores Ross shared concerns about future potential mandates and parental control in the schools. Mayor Dobbs suggested bringing her concerns to the Orland Unified School District school board.

CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS

Councilmember Romano:

- Updated Council on the EMS project;
- Shared that Friday September 22nd is the last day of the Farmers Market;
- Homecoming/Battle of the Axe is September 22nd;
- Shared his excitement about the DWR and the East Street projects;
- Expressed his appreciation for City Public Works and Recreation Departments;

Councilmember McDermott:

- Will be attending the Planning Commission Meeting, September 21st;

Councilmember Tolley:

- Attended the Economic Development Commission Meeting September 12th;

Mayor Dobbs

- Attended the Greg Martinez - End of Summer Car show September 9th.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:17 PM

Jennifer Schmitke, City Clerk

Chris Dobbs, Mayor



CITY OF ORLAND STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: November 7, 2023

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Councilmembers

FROM: Pete Carr, City Manager

SUBJECT: **Report and Proposal from Countywide Feline Task Force
(Discussion/Action)**

BACKGROUND:

The City annually pays Glenn County \$55,000 for animal control services, and since 2014 has maintained a program with Burnham Veterinary Clinic to partially offset the cost of feral cat services.

The City in recent months has been considering whether and how to respond to the request for financial support from Hidden Treasures Cat Rescue & Sanctuary in Orland. Hidden Treasures is requesting immediate and ongoing financial support. The City Council deferred action pending the result of a countywide feline ad hoc task force established to coordinate an approach between the County of Glenn, Willows and Orland. Vice Mayor Roundy and Councilmember Tolley represent Orland on that committee.

ANALYSIS:

Based on their most recent meeting Monday, October 30, the Feline ad hoc Committee recommends:

1. City of Orland and Glenn County would each contribute \$25,000 to a voucher program (total \$50,000 annually) to help offset costs of reducing the cat population.
2. Residents could take any cat or kitten to any veterinarian in Glenn County and pay directly for spay, neuter or euthanasia services.
 - Residents could then take their receipt to Glenn County Animal Control where they would be eligible for rebate/reimbursement of up to \$100.00 of services provided and paid.
 - There would be a limit to reimbursement of up to four (4) cats or kittens per household.
3. Disposition of cats and kittens, including return of the felines to the place where they were captured, would be at the discretion of the resident presenting the animal for veterinary services.
4. The committee would reconvene annually to review progress in reducing the cat population, and would consider adding dogs to the voucher program in the future.

RECOMMENDATION:

Direct Staff and/or Feline ad hoc committee members.

Council should decide, if funding is to be provided, which fund would be used (General? ARPA?).

FISCAL IMPACT OF RECOMMENDATION:

Up to \$25,000; \$12,500 this fiscal year (Jan-June 2024).



ORLANDO CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, November 7, 2023

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by Mayor Chris Dobbs at 6:30 PM.

ROLL CALL

Councilmembers present:	Councilmembers Jeffrey Tolley, Matt Romano, John McDermott, Vice Mayor Bruce T. Roundy, and Mayor Chris Dobbs
Councilmembers absent:	None
Staff present:	City Manager Pete Carr; Director of Administrative Services Rebecca Pendergrass; City Clerk Jennifer Schmitke; Police Chief Joe Vlach; City Attorney Greg Einhorn, City Engineer Paul Rabo
Staff present online:	Recreation Director Joe Fenske; Public Works Director Ed Vonasek; Fire Chief Justin Chaney

Pledge of Allegiance led by City Attorney Greg Einhorn

CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. Warrant List (Payable Obligations)
- B. Approve City Council Minutes for October 17, 2023
- C. Receive and File Planning Commission Minutes from September 21, 2023
- D. Annual Waste Collection Rate Adjustment
- E. Treasurer's Report

Councilmember Tolley pulled item 4.D. for Council to discuss.

Action: Councilmember Tolley moved, seconded by Councilmember McDermott, to approve the consent calendar without item 4.D. Motion carried by a voice vote 5-0.

Councilmember Tolley stated he didn't have any concerns with the item but felt that Council should discuss the issue as a group since it involves rates increasing. City Manager Pete Carr spoke about how the formulas are established and explained that the annual waste rate adjustment is part of the 10-year agreement that the City has with Waste Management.

Action: Councilmember Tolley moved, seconded by Vice Mayor Roundy, to approve item 4.D. Motion carried by a voice vote 5-0.

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

A. Report and Proposal from Countywide Feline Task Force

City Manager Pete Carr brought to Council a report and proposal from the Countywide Feline ad hoc Committee which met on October 30, 2023. Vice Mayor Roundy and Councilmember Tolley represented Orland on that Committee. Mr. Carr went over the recommendations from the Feline Committee which included –

1. City of Orland and Glenn County each contributing \$25,000 to a rebate program (total \$50,000) to help offset costs of reducing the cat population.
2. Residents could take any cat or kitten to any veterinarian in Glenn County and pay directly for spay, neuter or euthanasia services.
 - Residents could then take their receipt to Glenn County Animal Control where they would be eligible for rebate/reimbursement of up to \$100.00 of services provided and paid.
 - There would be a limit to reimbursement of up to four (4) cats or kittens per household.
3. Disposition of cats and kittens, including return of the felines to the place where they were captured, would be at the discretion of the resident presenting the animal for veterinary services.
4. The committee would reconvene annually to review progress in reducing the cat population and would consider adding dogs to the voucher program in the future.

Council discussed whether funding from American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), which is one-time funding at City's discretion, or if the City should use general funds which come from tax-revenues. Vice Mayor Roundy shared that the County has chosen to use ARPA funding. Councilmember Tolley clarified some of the recommendations from the meeting. The Council decided to pay the full \$25,000 toward the voucher program and then have the committee meet after a year to review the program.

Jan Smith, Hidden Treasures board member asked Council questions about the rebate program and stated her concerns over Hidden Treasures not getting help from the City to keep the doors open for their non-profit organization. Mayor Dobbs explained that the goal of the Council is to spend the taxpayer money in the best way that they can and shared the City cannot subsidize local businesses. Mayor Dobbs stated he felt that the Feline ad-hoc Committee was formed to help reduce the cat population and that the rebate program is a solution to help with the problem.

Carol Lewis, Hidden Treasures volunteer, asked if trappers would be limited to 4 vouchers. Councilmember Tolley shared that households are limited to 4 vouchers per year.

Kristi Rumble, Hidden Treasures trapper, asked for clarification on how the voucher program works.

Action: Councilmember Tolley moved, seconded by Councilmember McDermott, to approve that the City contribute \$25,000 to the Countywide feline voucher program, using ARPA funding.

Councilmember Tolley clarified that any facility used must be in good standing with the County and City regarding code enforcement and permits. Motion carried by a roll call vote 5-0.

Ayes: Councilmembers Tolley, Romano, McDermott, Vice Mayor Roundy, and Mayor Dobbs

Nays: None

B. Proposed 2024 Rate Adjustments for Water & Sewer

City Engineer Paul Rabo presented to the Council the annual review and possible adjustments of water and sewer rates. Mr. Rabo briefly highlighted what utilities the Public Works Department is responsible for.

Mr. Rabo explained that the City can use two different indexes to adjust rates; one being the Consumer Price Index (focuses on maintenance and operation cost of utility systems) which has shown over the last year a 4.6% increase in water and sewer rates, and the other being the Engineering News Record (which focuses on construction costs) which has shown an increase of 2.4% over the last year.

Mr. Rabo shared that City staff recommends increasing the bi-monthly water rates by 4.5% this year from \$66.35 to \$69.34 (for two months) for residents inside City Limits and from \$132.71 to \$138.68 (for two months) for residents outside City limits. Mr. Rabo shared that for sewer rates staff is recommending increasing the bi-monthly sewer rates from \$64.57 to \$67.48 (for two months) for residents inside City limits and for residents outside City limits rates would change from \$129.13 to \$134.94 (for two months). Mr. Rabo asked Council to direct staff regarding reviewing and updating the current rate study that was done to see if any additional adjustments need to be made or if the City should continue with the CPI increase each year.

Mr. Rabo shared that 5 years have passed since the City's last Prop 218 rate study which is where any increases in rates needed to be put before the voters. Mr. Rabo asked the Council to direct staff on whether they would like the City to conduct a Prop 218 utility rate election. Mr. Carr and Mr. Einhorn explained the Prop 218 process (opportunity to protest).

The Council discussed rate increases and the 218-protest process and agreed to put the decision for the rate increases into the hands of the property owners.

Trish Saint-Evens, Orland resident, asked about the Blue Frog at the Sewer ponds. Mr. Rabo shared that the City sewer ponds are currently operating under capacity and there is currently ongoing maintenance that Public Works is working on.

Action: Mayor Dobbs moved, seconded by Councilmember Tolley, to direct City Staff to conduct a Prop 218 process on the rates as proposed. Motion carried by a voice vote 5-0.

C. Consider Local Transactions Tax for Specific Local Purposes

City Manager Pete Carr recapped with Council that at the October 3, 2023 meeting staff brought forward the suggestion to consider of an additional ½ ¢ of new local add-on transactions and use tax, and shared a possible recommendation of how the tax could be structured:

R Tax:	1/4¢	Road maintenance
RRR Tax:	1/4¢	Rescue (EMS transport/ambulance)
		Reading (Library facilities and programs)
		Recreation (Parks and Rec facilities programs)

Mr. Carr said that the total potential add-on: ½ ¢ resulting in total 1¢ local tax on a \$1 taxable purchase, would result in an effective local sales tax rate of 8.25% (current sales tax rate in Orland is 7.75%).

Mr. Carr noted that library and recreation services are highly valued as quality-of-life amenities in Orland, but both are substantially reliant on the same General Fund that supports police and fire operational services. Mr. Carr shared that any new tax revenue funding made available to the library and recreation would help ease the pressure on the General Fund.

Councilmembers discussed how the City would get information out to the voters about the new tax measure and talked about how the City would ask voters to approve additional taxes. Mr. Carr shared that the City would need to know by February if the Council wanted to put the additional tax measure on the November 2024 ballot. The Council and staff discussed when a measure would go into effect and when the City would start to see revenue.

Vice Mayor Roundy stated that getting the community educated was key to getting Measure A passed and shared that the “City Council needed to be in lock step” when bringing this new tax measure forward to the voters, sharing that he believes the town hall meetings and information that was sent out was what helped Measure A pass in 2016. Councilmember Tolley shared that he has heard from many constituents that are opposed to any new taxes. Councilmember McDermott shared his concern with the City of Orland and Glenn County paying the bill for the new ambulance service and shared that the County ad hoc Committee has discussed a countywide tax to support the new ambulance. Councilmember McDermott stated that polling the community through their water bill is a good way to hear what voters are feeling. Councilmember Romano shared that he would like to hear from the City’s largest revenue partners on how they feel about the tax increase and if they would feel an impact.

The Council asked City staff to come back at a future meeting showing projects, plans and revenue that the City has in mind to help share vision and value to the community so they can see how the tax addition would benefit the town in the long run.

Brandon Smith, Orland resident, shared he would be supportive of the additional tax and liked the suggested structure and asked about sales tax on electric charging stations. Mr. Carr shared that the State does not allow for taxing of electric charging stations.

Ms. Saint-Evans shared that she would like to see the City Council have town hall meetings for the additional tax so that the community can hear the Council's opinions on all the current issues and problems, so that residents understand what is needed.

Tyra King, Orland resident, shared she would like to see the tax measure broken down more to see exactly where her money would be going.

ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Ms. Rumble shared her concerns and frustrations about the new striping on East Street.

Ms. Lewis shared her concerns about the striping on East Street and asked if the project was completed.

CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS

Councilmember McDermott:

- Attended the Planning Commission Meeting, October 19th;

Councilmember Romano:

- Attended the monthly EMS meeting with the County November 7, 2023.

Vice Mayor Roundy:

- Transportation and Transit meeting for October was cancelled;
- Attended Senator Dahle's meeting;
- LAFCo meeting in November was cancelled.

Councilmember Tolley:

- Attended the Glenn County Waste Management meeting;
- Attended the Feline ad hoc Committee.

Mayor Dobbs:

- Attended the 150 year celebration for the Orland Baptist Church;
- Will attend the Fire Department meeting in November;
- Will attend the Library Commission meeting, November 13th.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:24 PM

Jennifer Schmitke, City Clerk

Chris Dobbs, Mayor



CITY OF ORLAND STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: November 19, 2024

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

FROM: Pete Carr, City Manager

SUBJECT: **Update to ARPA Project Budget including Feline Population Reduction and Queen Bee Bucks (Discussion/Direction)**

Background:

See historical background in May 21, 2024 agenda packet. ARPA funds were intended to help communities recover from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic business shutdown, with its direct impact on small business and its indirect impact on agency revenues. This was in addition to three rounds of other Covid-relief funding which provided direct grants to qualified small businesses.

Orland selected a variety of public safety, business support, parks improvements and other uses for ARPA funds. On May 21st, the City Council reviewed the current use of funds and balances available as listed in the attached worksheet.

The Council revisited this list October 15th and determined all projects and budget categories were in alignment with objectives, but questioned whether the City should proceed on its own for what was previously planned to be a feline population reduction program in partnership with the County.

Analysis:

1. On further review after the October 15th meeting, Staff identified a needed correction to the ARPA Use of Funds line items based on decisions made by the Council in late 2023. Hence, the attached list this evening reflects the elimination of EV chargers as a funded project, the inclusion of repainting City Hall and the 824 4th St buildings and adding trees to parks, and additional funding for Queen Bee Bucks – changes made in November and December 2023 but not reflected on the 2024 worksheets.
2. The County Board of Supervisors on November 12th agreed to partner with Orland on a feline population reduction program, but added in dogs as included in the spay/neuter reimbursement program. The Board allocated \$25,000 of its ARPA funds and directed County staff to work with GCSO and Orland to plan the logistics of the program.
3. An additional \$22k remains unallocated and available for designated allocation or retention in the General Fund.
4. The EDC on November 14th agreed to recommend that Council add \$20k funding to start another round of Queen Bee Bucks BOGO in December.

Attachment: ARPA Funds Worksheet October 15, 2024 corrected

Recommendation:

Accept the corrected worksheet and direct Staff as to the cat/dog program and the Queen Bee Bucks program.

Fiscal Impact of Recommendation:

None. Orland's ARPA account is an internally designated category of the General Fund.



ORLANDO CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, November 19, 2024

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by Mayor Chris Dobbs at 6:30 PM.

ROLL CALL

Councilmembers present:

Councilmembers Bruce T. Roundy, John McDermott, Jeffrey A. Tolley, Vice Mayor Matt Romano and Mayor Chris Dobbs

Councilmembers absent:

None

Staff present:

City Manager Pete Carr; City Attorney Greg Einhorn; Police Chief Joe Vlach; City Clerk Jennifer Schmitke; City Engineer Paul Rabo, Library Director Jody Meza

CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. Warrant List (Payable Obligations)
- B. Approve City Council Minutes from November 5, 2024
- C. Receive and File Economic Development Commission Minutes from October 8, 2024
- D. Receive and File Library Commission Minutes from September 9, 2024
- E. Solid Waste Collection Rate Annual Adjustment
- F. Annual Review and Adjustment to Water and Sewer Rates
- G. Library Management Position

Councilmember Tolley asked to pull item 4F.

ACTION: Councilmember Tolley moved, seconded by Councilmember Roundy, to approve items A-E and G on the consent calendar as presented. Motion carried by a voice vote 5-0.

Councilmember Tolley expressed concerns about raising water and sewer rates. In response, the other Councilmembers emphasized the challenges of catching up on deferred rate increases versus maintaining steady adjustments. Councilmembers highlighted the importance of rate increases to support ongoing maintenance of the City's infrastructure. Despite this discussion, Councilmember Tolley reiterated his opposition to the proposed rate hikes.

ACTION: Councilmember Romano moved, seconded by Councilmember Roundy, to approve item F on the consent calendar as presented. Motion carried by a voice vote 4-1 (Councilmember Tolley voted no).

PRESENTATION - Presentation by Pioneer Community Energy to Consider Co-funding an Assessment Study to Determine the Feasibility of the City Joining Pioneer JPA

Mr. Carr introduced Gina Stassi-Vanacore and Lisa Delaney from Pioneer Community Energy, who provided an overview of their Community Choice Aggregator (CCA) program. They explained that CCAs allow local governments to procure electricity for residents and businesses while utilities like PG&E handle transmission and distribution. Pioneer prioritizes ratepayer savings, local control, and energy efficiency, offering electricity rates below PG&E's. Ms. Delaney spoke about key benefits of joining Pioneer Community Energy including:

1. **Stable and Competitive Rates:** Significant cost savings for customers, with \$85 million saved from 2018-2023 and \$21 million more projected for 2024.
2. **Local Control:** Membership includes a seat on Pioneer's Board of Directors, ensuring representation and public transparency.
3. **Advocacy:** Strong legislative and regulatory representation, including support for biomass energy.
4. **Economic Growth:** Prioritization of local contracts fosters job creation and business attraction.
5. **Customized Community Programs:** Includes incentives for solar and battery systems, agricultural pilots, energy rebates, and bioenergy initiatives.

Pioneer is interested in expanding into Glenn County and proposed a \$30,000 feasibility study to assess the potential, with Pioneer funding half the cost. The remaining \$15,000 would be shared by Glenn County, Orland, and Willows if they participate. The study will evaluate financial feasibility, projected rates, and power supply costs ahead of a potential October 2027 service launch.

Mr. Carr shared that the EDC reviewed the proposal on November 14 and recommended moving forward with the feasibility study. The County Board of Supervisors will consider it on November 26, and Willows will consider it on December 10.

Councilmember McDermott requested additional details about how PG&E carryover programs and solar customer benefits would transition to Pioneer. Ms. Stassi-Vanacore clarified that these programs would seamlessly transfer from PG&E to Pioneer.

Mayor Dobbs inquired about the process for residents and businesses wishing to opt out and whether the City could proceed with Pioneer independently if Willows and Glenn County chose not to participate after the feasibility study. Ms. Stassi-Vanacore assured that Pioneer would conduct community outreach to educate residents and emphasized that participation is voluntary. She also confirmed that the City could choose to move forward with Pioneer independently after the feasibility study is completed.

Vice Mayor Romano inquired about fees on Pioneer bills, and Ms. Stassi-Vanacore provided an estimated percentage of savings. When asked about the process for the City leaving Pioneer in the future, she explained the procedure for dissolving the agreement if necessary. Regarding energy sourcing, Ms. Stassi-Vanacore clarified that Pioneer purchases energy rather than producing it and achieves lower rates than PG&E by avoiding legacy costs, corporate overhead, and legal litigation expenses.

Councilmember Roundy expressed support for exploring the program, highlighting the potential utility savings for the community. Councilmember Tolley also voiced his support for evaluating the program.

Orland resident and EDC Chairperson Ron Lane recommended moving forward with Pioneer and inquired about the opt-out process, citing a negative experience he had heard from a Nevada County resident.

The Council directed staff to proceed, and Mr. Carr confirmed he would present a letter of intent at the December 3rd meeting.

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

A. Replacement of Underground Utilities on a Section of Swift Street

City Engineer Paul Rabo reported that on October 1, 2024, the City Council directed staff to seek partnership funding from the Glenn County Transportation Commission for the reconstruction of Swift Street, from East Street to Woodward Avenue. He emphasized the importance of replacing aging water mains and laterals before roadwork begins to ensure long-term utility reliability and street durability.

While the sewer main is relatively new and does not require replacement, the water infrastructure is outdated and undersized, with replacement costs estimated at \$400,000 for construction alone. Additionally, the clay sewer lines, which have exceeded their expected lifespan, also need replacement.

The total estimated cost for upgrading water and sewer infrastructure, including engineering and contingencies, is approximately \$1.4 million. Mr. Rabo provided a preliminary project estimate that incorporates both utility replacements and street reconstruction.

Mayor Dobbs emphasized the importance of updating the water and sewer lines concurrently with road repaving to ensure long-term infrastructure reliability. Vice Mayor Romano requested clarification on the project cost estimates. Councilmember Roundy highlighted the potential use of Measure J funds to support road maintenance projects like this one. Councilmember Tolley inquired about additional engineering costs and questioned the criticality of updating the utility lines as part of this project. Councilmember McDermott emphasized the importance of upgrading the water lines to enhance firefighting capabilities and ensure public safety.

Orland resident Earl Megginson stated his support for the project and asked the City to consider the residents that live on that street.

Mr. Lane recommended that the water and sewer lines should be replaced at the same time.

ACTION: Councilmember Roundy moved, seconded by Councilmember McDermott, to approve the replacement of water and sewer infrastructure on Swift Street from East Street to Woodward Ave, prior to reconstruction of the street surface. Motion carried by a roll call vote 4-1.

Ayes: Councilmembers Tolley, Roundy, McDermott, Mayor Dobbs

Noes: Vice Mayor Romano voted no

B. Update to ARPA Project Budget including Feline Population Reduction, Queen Bee Bucks

Mr. Carr reported that the Council allocated ARPA funds to support COVID-19 recovery efforts, focusing on public safety, business support, and parks improvements. After reviewing fund usage on May 21, 2024, and again on October 15, the Council confirmed alignment with funding objectives.

Mr. Carr noted that ARPA allocations were updated to reflect late 2023 Council decisions. Key changes include removing EV chargers, adding repainting projects for City Hall and the 824 4th St. buildings, planting trees in parks, and increasing funding for Queen Bee Bucks.

On November 12, the County Board of Supervisors allocated \$25,000 of its ARPA funds to a spay/neuter reimbursement program for cats and dogs in partnership with Orland. County staff will work on logistics details.

Mr. Carr reported the EDC also recommended allocating \$20,000 to support another round of the Queen Bee Bucks BOGO program for the holiday season and noted that \$22,000 remains available for future allocation or retention in the General Fund.

The Council unanimously supported moving forward with the Queen Bee Bucks program, emphasizing its positive impact on supporting local businesses and expressing hope that it could launch in time for the holiday season. The Council also expressed appreciation for the progress on the Cat/Dog reimbursement program in partnership with the County, highlighting its potential benefits for the community. Additionally, the Council agreed to prioritize painting City Hall before addressing other city buildings and requested bids for the project.

County resident Kristy Rumble shared her views on painting the City buildings.

County resident Valerie Johnson expressed her gratitude to the City for advancing the reimbursement program and stated she is not supportive of the County's addition of dogs.

Orland resident Heather LeDonne expressed her concerns about the new reimbursement program, particularly her disagreement with including dogs and euthanasia.

Orland resident Alex Enriquez suggested modifying the Queen Bee Bucks program by moving away from the BOGO structure and instead focusing on increasing the proportion of local dollars reinvested into the community.

Mr. Carr mentioned that City staff could contact the painters to include City Hall in their proposals for the project.

ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Ms. Rumble asked the City to consider flashing crosswalk signs in the school zones on Hwy 32.

CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS

Councilmember Tolley:

- Attended the EDC meeting on November 12th.

Councilmember Roundy:

- Will be attending the Arts Commission meeting November 20th.

- Will be attending the Transportation Commission and Transit Committee meeting November 21st.

Councilmember McDermott:

- Nothing to Report.

Vice Mayor Romano:

- Nothing to Report.

Mayor Dobbs:

- Nothing to Report.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:08 PM

Jennifer Schmitke, City Clerk

Chris Dobbs, Mayor



ORLAND CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, February 4, 2025

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by Mayor Matt Romano at 6:00 PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Councilmembers Present: Councilmembers Brandon Smith, Terrie Barr, John McDermott, Vice Mayor JC Tolle and Mayor Matt Romano

Councilmembers Absent: None

Staff Present: City Manager Pete Carr; City Attorney Greg Einhorn; City Clerk Jennifer Schmitke

Arrived at 6:30: City Planner Scott Friend; Building Official Wyatt Paxton and Nick Paxton; Police Officer Ryan Martindale

CITIZENS COMMENTS ON CLOSED SESSION

MEETING ADJOURNED TO CLOSED SESSION AT 6:02 PM.

CLOSED SESSION ENDED AND RECONVENED TO REGULAR SESSION AT 6:34 PM.

REPORT FROM CLOSED SESSION - Mayor Romano announced that Council met with City Staff and City Attorney Greg Einhorn in Closed Session, to discuss the real property negotiations and anticipated litigation items as noted on the Closed Session agenda. Mayor Romano shared no reportable action.

CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. Warrant List (Payable Obligations)
- B. Approve City Council Minutes for January 21, 2025
- C. Receive and File Recreation Commission Minutes from September 25, 2024

ACTION: Councilmember McDermott moved, seconded by Councilmember Barr, to approve the consent calendar as presented. Motion carried by a voice vote 5-0.

PRESENTATION WITH REQUESTED ACTION - Pioneer Community Energy JPA Resolution and Ordinance

Mr. Carr introduced Lisa DeLaby, Community Outreach Manager for Pioneer Community Energy (Pioneer). Ms. DeLaby provided the Council with an update on Pioneer, a Community

Choice Aggregation (CCA) program designed to give local communities greater control over their electricity supply while PG&E remains responsible for transmission and billing. She summarized the findings of the recent feasibility assessment study, highlighted key Council actions and CCA developments, outlined the projected benefits for Orland, and discussed the next steps in the proposed project.

Councilmembers discussed the opt-out process and associated costs, raised concerns about energy brokering, and about government support for renewable energy initiatives.

Orland resident Earl Megginson asked whether Pioneer would have a similar program to the CARE program that he currently has with PG&E.

Orland resident Ron Lane asked about true ups with Pioneer versus PG&E.

County resident Vernon Montague asked if the City has looked into other Community Choice Aggregations to bring to Orland.

Orland resident Carol Hansen asked if the City has looked into reviews from other communities or Pioneer customers.

ACTION: Councilmember McDermott moved, seconded by Vice Mayor Tolle, to approve the Resolution to formally join Pioneer's expanded Joint Powers Authority (JPA). Motion carried by a voice vote 3-2.

AYES: Councilmembers Smith, McDermott, Vice Mayor Tolle

NOES: Councilmember Barr, Mayor Romano

ACTION: Councilmember McDermott moved, seconded by Vice Mayor Tolle, to approve the Ordinance to authorize the CCA program in Orland. Motion carried by a voice vote 3-2.

AYES: Councilmembers Smith, McDermott, Vice Mayor Tolle

NOES: Councilmember Barr, Mayor Romano

PUBLIC HEARING - Title 17 Zoning Ordinance Amendment: Accessory Structures

City Planner Scott Friend presented proposed amendments to the accessory structure standards outlined in Title 17 of the Orland Municipal Code (OMC) to the City Council. He provided background from the December 19th Planning Commission meeting, where City staff initially introduced the idea of modifying the existing standards. At that time, the Commission directed staff to revise the regulations, focusing on maximum height limits and setback requirements for accessory structures.

Mr. Friend emphasized that accessory structures—such as detached garages, storage buildings, and patio covers—are intended to complement primary residences and must adhere to specific design and placement criteria.

He then outlined the key proposed text amendments, which address:

1. **Storage Building Height**
2. **Utility Restrictions**
3. **Prohibition of Dwelling Use**
4. **Runoff Prevention Measures**
5. **Minimum Structure Setbacks**
6. **Setback Exceptions**
7. **Accessory Structure Setbacks Table**

The proposed updates aim to clarify regulations and ensure accessory structures are appropriately integrated within residential properties.

Mr. Friend reported that at its January 16 meeting, the Planning Commission voted unanimously (4-0) to recommend this item to the Council with a CEQA exemption.

Councilmembers discussed the amendments to accessory structures, including setbacks, and shared their support for certain changes—such as allowing electrical and water services—while also voicing concerns about requirements like matching the roof pitch to the main house and the potential for two-story accessory structures.

Mr. Friend offered to return at a future meeting with graphical depictions for the Council's review.

Mayor Romano opened the public hearing at 7:43 PM.

Orland resident Jan Walker expressed her opinion on front-facing garages in residential homes.

Orland resident Ruth Henderson voiced her opposition to two-story accessory structures, citing concerns about their impact.

County resident Kristi Rumble advocated for property owner autonomy, stating that individuals should have the freedom to make decisions about their own backyards.

County resident Joannie Woods shared that while she personally dislikes front-facing garages, she supports homeowners' rights to use their backyards as they see fit.

Mr. Megginson highlighted the contrast between rural and urban living, emphasizing the importance of consideration for neighbors in more densely populated areas.

Mayor Romano closed the public hearing at 7:48 PM.

Mayor Romano spoke about Accessory Dwelling Unity (ADU) requirements that came from the State and stated that the City would like to align the accessory structure requirements with the ADU requirements. Mr. Friend shared that the Planning Commission's ideas was to allow people to maximize yard space.

ACTION: Councilmember McDermott moved, seconded by Vice Mayor Tolle, to move that the City Council adopt City Council ordinance #2025-02, approving the first reading of Amendments to Title 17 concerning Accessory Structures, as contained herein, and adopt the findings of the Notice of Exemption prepared for the proposed action. Motion failed by a voice vote 2-3.

AYES: Councilmember McDermott, Vice Mayor Tolle
NOES: Councilmembers Barr and Smith, Mayor Romano

Council agreed to table the discussion allowing Council more time to review and requested that Mr. Friend make a few modifications, including adding visuals, and present the revised version for review at a future meeting.

PRESENTATION - Building and Code Enforcement Annual Presentation

Building Official Wyatt Paxton introduced Nicholas Paxton, who will be overseeing local building inspections. Nicholas then provided an overview of the Building Department's operations for 2024.

The department now consists of a Certified Building Official, Plans Examiner, and Inspector—Wyatt Paxton, Owner of Paxton Scott Enterprises—along with Building Inspector Nicholas Paxton and Permit Clerk Deysy Simpson.

In 2024, the Building Department issued 276 permits, generating \$291,290 in permit fees. This included 131 building permits, 75 solar permits, 14 electrical permits, 34 mechanical permits, and 15 plumbing permits. The total valuation of permitted projects for the year reached \$14.3 million.

Looking ahead, the department plans to keep most plan reviews in-house, maintain builder-friendly fee structures, and streamline construction startup times. Additionally, the Fire Department will assist with fire sprinkler inspections.

Nicholas also highlighted key projects under the department's oversight, including new lot inspections for CHIP Housing and The Village-Westhaven, the Duche Nut Co. solar project, and a remodel at Pilot Travel Center.

Council thanked Wyatt and Nick for all they do for the community and City of Orland.

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

Mid-year Budget Review

City Manager Carr presented the Council with a mid-year budget review for fiscal year 2023/2024, highlighting key financial trends. He reported that General Fund revenues are 5% below budget, with sales tax down 22% and hotel tax (ToT) declining by 11%.

Mr. Carr also noted that General Fund reserves, intended to cover emergencies and economic fluctuations, should exceed \$2 million but currently stand at \$1.25 million.

Measure A is entirely dependent on sales tax revenue, its performance closely mirrors the General Fund, with revenue at 46% and expenditures also at 46% halfway through the fiscal year. The fund balance remains strong at \$1.5 million, with the majority earmarked for future Fire Department capital purchases.

Measure J fund will follow a similar tracking and reporting process as Measure A. Revenue will begin accruing in April but won't be realized until October, with over \$300,000 expected and additional funds arriving quarterly. Authorized expenditures total \$132,000, leaving the fund with a current negative balance of \$132,000.

The Water Fund remains financially stable, with half-year revenues of \$1.04M exceeding expenditures of \$860K, maintaining a \$4.5M fund balance (adjusted down \$348K for the Vac-con cost share).

The Sewer Fund covers operational costs but has limited flexibility for capital improvements. Revenue of \$706K exceeds expenditures of \$498K, leaving a net positive of \$208K, but recent one-time capital expenditures of \$439K for lift stations, \$149K for the Vac-con, and \$30K for pond analysis have lowered the fund balance to \$565K. Staff recommended that Council consider shifting 100% of the Vac-con cost to the Water Fund to alleviate financial strain on the Sewer Fund.

Councilmembers inquired about ongoing water and sewer projects, expressed concerns about slowing revenue and discussed the possible need to increase sewer rates. They also discussed the Sewer Master Plan and directed City staff to obtain a cost estimate for updating it.

Orland Vision and Design

Mr. Carr explained this discussion is in response to Council's interest in developing a visioning and design plan for the City. He noted that while the General Plan (2008-2028) provides long-term guidance, it has been supplemented by updates such as the Housing Element (2024), Safety & Circulation Elements (2021), and Active Transportation Plan (2019).

Mr. Carr sought Council's input on how to proceed, asking whether they preferred presentations on existing plans and standards before moving forward. He also inquired if discussions should be self-facilitated, staff-led, or involve City Commissions, and whether Council would like to hold special workshops or public town hall meetings to engage the community.

Council discussed the challenges of growth and the need to balance development while preserving the community's rural charm. Councilmembers highlighted key priorities, including:

- **Downtown Alleyway Maintenance** – Ensuring upkeep and accessibility.
- **Long-Term Sewer Pond Funding** – Planning for future infrastructure needs.
- **Traffic and Street Design on SR 32** – Exploring the hire of a traffic consultant/engineer.
- **Aesthetics Planning** – Bringing in an architect/designer to create a cohesive vision.
- **Flooding Concerns on Hwy 32** – Coordinating with Caltrans on mitigation efforts.
- **Recreation Enhancements** – Pool resurfacing and expanding sports field availability.
- **Water and Sewer Infrastructure** – Addressing system improvements.
- **Comprehensive Plan Updates** – Reviewing the General Plan, Street Design Circulation Plan, and Water & Sewer Master Plan.
- **Police Station & City Hall Feasibility** – Assessing options for a new facility.

Council directed City staff to explore the feasibility of a separate police station and City Hall and return with recommendations. Council directed staff to obtain recommendations for a traffic consultant for SR 32 and possibly prepare an RFP for an updated circulation plan. Council also expressed interest in working with staff to secure land for parks and recreation. Council asked

staff to look into the price of hiring an urban design planner/architect to assist with developing Objective Design Standards.

Mr. Megginson inquired about the promotional video showcasing the many great aspects of Orland. He also asked about the town's former entrance sign that listed all the local churches.

Ms. Walker emphasized the importance of having a clear vision for Orland and noted that there is no need to rush the process.

Orland resident Alex Enriquez emphasized the importance of long-term visioning for the city's future and raised the possibility of rerouting SR 32 around Orland.

Mr. Lane expressed his thoughts on the visioning process, emphasizing the value of community involvement.

County resident Marilyn Ponci voiced her appreciation for long-term planning efforts and stressed the need for pool resurfacing.

Ms. Woods shared her opinion on skateparks and suggested adding a small play area to Library Park to enhance recreational opportunities.

City Manager Verbal Report

- Mr. Carr shared that a City employee has requested a hearing regarding a personnel action before the Council. The hearing will be on February 18, 2025 at 4:30 PM.
- The Contractor for the water tank plans to pour concrete on Friday February 7th.
- Arts Commission meeting will be meeting one week early on February 12th to be able to get Council a recommendation regarding paint colors and design.
- Mr. Carr shared that he will be at the CalCities City Manager Conference February 5th - 7th.

ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Glenn County Supervisor Monica Rossman thanked all Councilmembers, City Staff and community members for coming out to support the 1st Countywide Veterans Standdown.

CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS

COUNCILMEMBER UPDATES

Councilmember Smith:

- Attended New Council Member Training in Sacramento from January 22nd to 24th.
- Attended the Countywide Veterans Standdown.

Councilmember McDermott:

- Will attend the Economic Development Commission meeting February 11, 2025.
- Attended the Fire Department Spaghetti Feed.

- Attended the Veterans Standdown and stated his appreciation for everything Supervisor Rossman did to put the event on.

Councilmember Barr:

- Attended the Fire Department Spaghetti Feed.
- Attended the Cal Cities New Council Member Training in Sacramento.
- Will be attending the Chamber of Commerce Meeting February 6th at Noon.
- The Art Gallery will be open Friday February 7th.
- Asked about the community calendar on the website (Mr. Carr explained that the Chamber has taken over the community calendar, City Clerk Jennifer Schmitke shared she would look into the Calendar on the City website.

Vice Mayor Tolle:

- Watched the Board of Supervisors meeting via Zoom.
- Attended New Council Member Training in Sacramento from January 22nd to 24th.
- Attended the Countywide Veterans Standdown.
- Attended the Fire Department Spaghetti Feed.

Mayor Romano:

- Discussed the \$25K that the City allotted to spay and neuter cats in Orland and asked if the City should re-address with the County or go out on their own...Mayor Romano and Councilmember Barr stated they would like to be part of the adhoc committee to get the ball rolling on getting the money to the cat neutering program.
- Thanked City Police Officers, Public Works crews and Fire Department for being out in the weather for long hours taking care of the community in the bad weather.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9:20 PM

Jennifer Schmitke, City Clerk

Mathew Romano, Mayor



ORLAND CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, June 3, 2025

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Matt Romano at 6:01 PM.

ROLL CALL

Councilmembers Present: Councilmembers Brandon Smith, Terrie Barr, John McDermott, Vice Mayor JC Tolle and Mayor Matt Romano

Councilmembers Absent: None

Staff Present: Interim City Manager Janet Wackerman; City Attorney Scott Drexel, Negotiation Attorney Greg Einhorn (via Zoom), City Clerk Jennifer Schmitke

Arrived at 6:30: Police Sergeant Sean Johnson; Library Director Jody Meza, Assistant City Manager Rebecca Webster and Fire Chief Justin Chaney

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CITIZENS COMMENTS ON CLOSED SESSION - None

MEETING ADJOURNED TO CLOSED SESSION AT 6:02 PM.

CLOSED SESSION ENDED AND RECONVENED TO REGULAR SESSION AT 6:34 PM.

REPORT FROM CLOSED SESSION - *Mayor Romano announced that Council met with City Staff and City Attorney Scott Drexel in Closed Session to discuss real property negotiations, Public Employment and conference with labor negotiators as noted on the Closed Session agenda. Mayor Romano shared that there was no reportable action.*

ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. Warrant List (Payable Obligations)
- B. Approve City Council Minutes for May 20, 2025
- C. Receive and File Arts Commission Minutes from April 16, 2025
- D. Letter of Support for Glenn County Arts & Culture Council
- E. Approve and Adopt Second Reading of Ordinance No. 2025-24, Amending Orland Municipal Code Section 17.48.030(A) to Add Schools, Public and Private, as a Conditionally Permitted Use in the M-L Zoning District; and CEQA Exemption Under Guidelines Section 15305

ACTION: Councilmember Smith moved, seconded by Councilmember Barr, to approve the consent calendar as presented. Motion carried by a voice vote 5-0.

PROCLAMATION

Mayor Romano presented a proclamation to Amber Arnold, Program Manager II for Child Welfare and Adult Protective Services with the Glenn County Health and Human Services Agency. On behalf of the Orland City Council, Mayor Romano officially proclaimed June 15 as World Elder Abuse Awareness Day. Ms. Arnold, along with Amy Doyle, spoke about the critical role of Adult Protective Services and highlighted the efforts of the county team in supporting and protecting elderly residents throughout Glenn County.

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

Library Director Services Agreement with the City of Willows

City Attorney Scott Drexel provided the Council with an overview of the current Library Director Services Agreement between the City of Orland and the City of Willows. Under this agreement, Orland's Library Director dedicates 20 hours per week to the Willows Public Library, with Willows reimbursing 50% of the Director's total compensation (\$102,000). The agreement automatically renews each fiscal year but allows for modification or termination by either party with 30 days' written notice.

Mr. Drexel noted that staff has raised concerns about the City of Willows exercising an undue level of managerial control over the Library Director, which may be impacting her ability to effectively serve the City of Orland.

He presented the Council with three options moving forward:

1. Maintain the current agreement with the City of Willows;
2. Direct the City Manager to negotiate modifications to the agreement; or
3. Authorize the City Manager to issue a 30-day written notice of termination.

The City Council engaged the Library Director in a discussion regarding the shared services agreement with the City of Willows for Library Director services. Councilmembers expressed their opinions on the direction the City should take with the agreement.

Councilmember Smith noted that it is the Council's responsibility to support City employees and act in the best interest of Orland residents. The Council expressed consensus that the contract with the City of Willows should be terminated. Councilmember McDermott added that, while 30 days' notice complies with the agreement, it would be considerate for the Library Director to provide Willows with additional time to assist in their transition.

Library Director Jody Meza reported that she had completed several grant reports, submitted applications ahead of schedule, and worked closely with the full-time Library Technician, who she believes is well-prepared to take on most responsibilities. Ms. Meza confirmed that 30 days would be sufficient to conclude her duties in Willows.

Marti Brown, City Manager for the City of Willows, stated that Willows leadership was surprised by the decision and that this was the first indication of any issues concerning the shared agreement. She expressed concern about not being previously made aware of any challenges related to the Library Director's ability to perform her duties in Orland and said the City of Willows felt blindsided. Ms. Brown requested an extension beyond the 30-day notice—possibly 90 to 120 days—to secure new management for the Willows Public Library.

Councilmember Smith emphasized he believed the City of Willows was not blindsided by the situation. Councilmember McDermott reiterated that providing more than 30 days would be a gesture of goodwill, while Councilmember Barr stated that Ms. Meza knows the needs of both libraries and affirmed that 30 days was a reasonable timeframe to complete her work.

ACTION: Councilmember Smith moved, seconded by Vice Mayor Tolle, to authorize the City Manager to issue a 30-day notice to terminate the Library Director agreement. Motion carried by a voice vote 5-0.

Planning Consultant Selection

Interim City Manager Janet Wackerman provided a brief overview of the Request for Proposals (RFP) process for Professional Planning Services. She noted that the RFP was issued on March 25, 2025, with the goal of securing a qualified firm to provide comprehensive municipal planning services. The selected firm would be responsible for overseeing a full range of planning tasks, ensuring consistent support for both current and long-term city needs.

By the April 28 deadline, the City received ten (10) proposals. A review panel, consisting of City staff and a Planning Commissioner, evaluated and ranked the submissions. Based on the evaluations, four (4) firms were shortlisted for interviews. Prior to interviews, references were thoroughly checked.

Ms. Wackerman conducted interviews with each of the four firms using a standardized set of questions. All firms demonstrated strong familiarity with the City's General Plan, zoning codes, and strategic location near Interstate 5 and State Route 32. Each had reviewed recordings of past Planning Commission meetings and was briefed on potential projects anticipated during their tenure.

Ms. Wackerman also summarized the key qualifications of each firm, including their availability, relevant experience, areas of expertise, and current client base.

Council discussed the interview process and available options regarding a special meeting with City Attorney Scott Drexel. Mr. Drexel explained that while the Council will provide input throughout the process, the final selection of a firm will be made by Ms. Wackerman, pending Council approval of the contract.

Orland resident Sharon Lazorko inquired about the size and resources of the firms under consideration. Principal Planner Mark Wolfe of NorthStar assisted Interim City Manager Janet Wackerman in responding to her questions.

Resident Alex Enriquez asked for clarification on the interview process. Mayor Romano explained that an evaluation matrix was used to assess and compare all firms during the selection process.

After discussing, Council opted to postpone selecting a firm. Councilmembers expressed interest in holding a special public meeting where all four finalists would be invited to give formal presentations prior to making a final decision.

Fiscal Year 2025-26 Draft Budget

Ms. Wackerman welcomed Council to bring forward any questions, concerns or comments.

Mayor Romano, speaking on behalf of the Council, expressed serious concerns about the City's budget deficit. He noted that last year, the City was approximately \$250,000 over budget in both the General Fund and Measure A. This year, projections show the City may exceed the budget by about \$400,000 in each of those areas. Mayor Romano emphasized that the City cannot continue operating over budget and highlighted the absence of funding for the Westside second ambulance, which was previously included under Measure A but no longer appears in the current budget. He concluded by stating that difficult decisions will need to be made moving forward.

Assistant City Manager Rebecca Webster stated that she could revise the next draft of the budget to include the Westside general operations costs under Measure A. However, she noted that doing so would further increase the deficit. In response, Mayor Romano emphasized the need to make cuts to both the General Fund and Measure A expenditures. Councilmember Smith clarified that the funding for Westside Ambulance operations was intended to be split evenly, with 50% coming from Measure A and 50% from Measure J.

Councilmember Tolle inquired about the "Special Technology" line item, which appeared across multiple departments and had nearly doubled since the previous fiscal year. Assistant City Manager Rebecca Webster explained that the increase is primarily due to the City's planned transition to cloud-based systems. She noted that this shift from physical servers to the cloud is a one-time cost and, while expensive, is necessary to avoid the equally high cost of replacing outdated servers.

Councilmember Tolle also suggested that, given the Council is asking departments to reduce expenses, they should consider evaluating their own stipends as part of the cost-saving effort.

Councilmember McDermott proposed revisiting and adjusting the budget after the first quarter to respond to more accurate financial data.

Councilmember Barr recommended holding roundtable meetings between City staff, department heads, and Councilmembers to openly discuss departmental needs and budget priorities. She expressed interest in conducting multiple sessions over the coming weeks to work toward a balanced budget.

Councilmember Smith acknowledged the challenges in balancing the budget and emphasized the need to increase revenue. He questioned how the City might attract more visitors and stated that bringing a hotel to town could help generate additional income. He concluded by stating that he is not comfortable with the City operating at a \$600,000 deficit.

Mayor Romano emphasized that the General Fund is intended to cover the City's core operational costs. He highlighted significant budget increases across several departments over

the past two years, noting that City Manager Administration expenses have increased by \$216,000, Police by \$737,000, Fire by \$235,000, and the Library by \$40,000. He also mentioned that costs for Public Works, City Council, and the City Attorney have all risen, with planning firm expenses expected to increase as well. Additionally, he pointed out that insurance costs have seen a substantial rise.

Councilmember Barr reminded the Council that projected revenues were overestimated compared to actuals, highlighting a clear decline in the local economy. She noted that gas sales are down, property taxes are stagnant, and overall revenue is not keeping pace with rising expenses. When revenues are overestimated, it leads to overspending by year-end. She stressed the importance of building a financial buffer, not just balancing the budget, but also setting aside reserves. Without proper savings, the City's current \$2 million in General Fund reserves could quickly diminish if revenues fall short. She urged the Council to take the situation seriously and proactively adjust spending, acknowledging that doing so will be difficult for everyone.

County resident Valerie Johnson provided the Council an update on Hidden Treasures and asked the City to prioritize the voucher program sharing it is very important that the \$25,000 is set aside for the spay and neuter program.

The Council directed staff to revise the draft budget for fiscal year 2025–2026 and bring the updated version back for further review and consideration.

City Manager Transition Update

Interim City Manager Janet Wackerman provided an update on the City Manager recruitment process. She reported that, to date, two applications (both Glenn County residents) have been received and reminded the Council that the application deadline is June 10. Ms. Wackerman also shared that she has reached out to various municipalities to see if they know of any potential candidates who may be interested in the position.

City Manager Verbal Report

- The League of California Cities Conference will be held in Long Beach in October 2025.
- Staff is currently working on a grant application for improvements to the sewer ponds.
- The Chamber of Commerce meeting is scheduled for June 5 at I-5 Café, where Monica Rossman will be the guest speaker.
- The "Wild Things" event will take place at the Library on June 11.

CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS

COUNCILMEMBER UPDATES

Councilmember Smith:

- Attended the pool ribbon cutting.
- Attended the Orland Outlaws' new facilities open house.
- Shared that the Boysenberries are in season and ready to pick.

Councilmember Barr:

- Attended the ribbon cutting for the swimming pool.
- Thanked Valerie Johnson for her services in helping with felines in town.
- Attended the OUSD Music program in Vinsonhaler park.
- CK price graduation is June 4th. and OHS graduation is June 5th.
- Shared Orland has incredible services for the youth.
- Shared a complaint about the ballfield grass being dried out.

Councilmember McDermott:

- Will be attending the EDC meeting on June 10th.
- Shared the Senior Expo is on June 18th from 10-2 PM at the fairgrounds.

Vice Mayor Tolle:

- Nothing to report.

Mayor Romano:

- Attended the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new pool.
- Participated in the grand opening of the Orland Outlaws' new facility.
- Expressed concerns regarding several ball fields drying out and the impact on community recreation.
- Shared that the only sustainable way to increase city revenues, improve employee compensation, and enhance community services is by expanding the tax base. The City requires a comprehensive long-term plan focused on revenue growth. Potential opportunities include developing parks and ballfields (such as a baseball facility), adding soccer fields, and acquiring additional fields using Measure J funds to attract more families.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Mayor Romano spoke about future agenda item topics including...

*The possibility of investing Measure J funds in a gymnasium or recreation center to support youth volleyball, basketball, and wrestling programs, further encouraging family engagement in the community.

*Does the City intend to hire GHD to provide strategic recommendations on investments to boost revenue, particularly leveraging proximity to I-5, finishing the Carnegie Center project and whether the City should plan to collaborate with Caltrans on improvements to Highway 32.

MEETING ADJOURNED 7:54 PM

Jennifer Schmitke, City Clerk

Mathew Romano, Mayor



ORLAND CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, November 18, 2025

ALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Matt Romano at 6:00 PM.

ROLL CALL

Councilmembers Present: Councilmembers John McDermott, Terrie Barr, Vice Mayor JC Tolle and Mayor Matt Romano

Councilmembers Absent: None

Staff Present: City Manager Joe Goodman, City Attorney Scott Drexel, City Clerk Jennifer Schmitke, Labor Negotiations Attorney Greg Einhorn
Arrived at 6:30 pm: Police Chief Joe Vlach, City Engineer Paul Rabo, City Planner Lisa Lozier

CITIZENS COMMENTS ON CLOSED SESSION - None

MEETING ADJOURNED TO CLOSED SESSION AT 6:02 PM.

CLOSED SESSION ENDED AND RECONVENED TO REGULAR SESSION AT 6:30 PM.

REPORT FROM CLOSED SESSION - *Mayor Romano announced that Council met with City Staff and City Attorneys Scott Drexel and Greg Einhorn in Closed Session to Conference with Legal Counsel-initiation of litigation and Conference with Labor Negotiators, as noted on the Closed Session agenda, Mayor Romano shared that there was no reportable action.*

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Orland resident Earl Megginson requested an update on the DWR water tank project and its finances. Mayor Romano provided a brief response and noted that the most recent staff update occurred in September, adding that he would review those meeting minutes for additional details.

Valerie Johnson, a county resident and representative of Hidden Treasures Cat Sanctuary, thanked the community for supporting the organization's recent grand opening. She provided a brief clinic update, reiterated her interest in partnering with the City on a voucher program, and noted that Hidden Treasures continues to offer food support for cats in need.

Orland resident Byron Denton expressed concern that the Carnegie Center remains inaccessible under ADA standards and encouraged the City to consider installing a lift.

County resident Yvonna Bennett spoke regarding public records requests and raised concerns about her personal information.

Scott Howard, a Butte County resident and Orland property owner, voiced concerns about increased maintenance assessment fees on his county tax bill and asked the Council to consider options for a discount or deferral.

Jake Hackett addressed issues of fair representation and voting rights, requesting that the City place a discussion on at-large versus district elections on a future agenda.

Orland resident Michaela Ponce also spoke in support of the City moving forward with district elections.

CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. Warrant List from November 4, 2025 (Payable Obligations)
- B. Warrant List from November 18, 2025 (Payable Obligations)
- C. Approve City Council Minutes from October 21, 2025
- D. Receive and File Recreation Commission Minutes from August 27, 2025
- E. Receive and File Arts Commission Minutes from September 17, 2025
- F. Consideration of Caltrans FY 2026-2027 Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant
- G. Consider awarding a construction contract for the Orland Fire Station roof project
- H. Annual Review and Possible Adjustment to Water and Sewer Rates
- I. Consider Solid Waste Collection Rate Annual Adjustment

Mr. Denton requested clarification regarding the City's water and sewer rate adjustments. Mr. Rabo explained that the City reviews these rates annually and, in accordance with the Municipal Code, may increase them by up to the Consumer Price Index (CPI). Based on data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the allowable increase for this year is 4.6%. He noted that this adjustment is necessary to support daily operations, ongoing maintenance, and future capital improvement needs.

Mayor Romano asked about the \$50,000 reimbursement to the Orland Volunteer Fire Department and whether supporting documentation was available. City Manager Joe Goodman reported that, according to Chief Chaney, the reimbursement reflects subsidies historically provided. Mr. Goodman shared that Chief Chaney will be providing backup for this reimbursement. Councilmember McDermott added that the all-volunteer fire department relies heavily on personal funds for tools and personal vehicle use/fuel, which the subsidy helps offset.

Councilmember Barr also spoke with Mr. Rabo regarding the water and sewer rate increase.

ACTION: Councilmember McDermott moved, seconded by Vice Mayor Tolle, to approve the consent calendar. Motion carried by a voice vote 4-0.

PRESENTATIONS

A. Caltrans Presentation: Newville Road / Walker Street – Complete Street Improvements From I-5 to County Road N

City Engineer Paul Rabo updated the Council on the 2017 Walker Street Streetscape Master Plan, which proposes pedestrian, bike, landscaping, and lighting improvements from 2nd to 6th Streets. He reported that Caltrans is preparing a Capital Maintenance Project (03-0J500) on Newville Road and Walker Street (I-5 to Sacramento River) to rehabilitate pavement and drainage and upgrade ADA pedestrian facilities, scheduled for advertising in 2025/26. Mr. Rabo explained that in 2026 Caltrans will begin Complete Streets projects.

Caltrans Project Manager Julio Torreiro-Casal presented the future Complete Streets Project (03-1N200), which includes sidewalk rehabilitation, closing gaps, bike lanes, ADA-compliant facilities, pavement and drainage upgrades, wayfinding signage, and intersection improvements at 9th Street. The City's Streetscape Plan has been submitted for potential inclusion, and a public feedback link is available on the City website.

Councilmembers asked several questions about the project and expressed concerns regarding potential tree removal, the proposed location of the roundabout, and the loss of parking along SR-32 within the project area. Council noted the importance of minimizing impacts on downtown businesses.

Mr. Torreiro-Casal explained that the project is still in its early planning stages. He noted that he has reviewed the City's preliminary concepts and encouraged the community to stay engaged, provide feedback, and share any concerns as the project moves forward.

Orland resident Jan Walker shared her concerns and frustrations that all the old City plans, she helped create, are not present in the current Caltrans project.

Orland resident Ron Lane shared he would like to see additional lighting enhancement on the I-5 bee sculptures.

Mardy Thomas, representative from Glenn County Transit Authority Committee, shared his request for a bus pull-up along SR32 in front of Sav Mor and Success Square, and would like to discuss what kind of funding they would need for bus pull-outs to assist in the area.

Ms. Ponce expressed appreciation for Caltrans's efforts to prioritize safety and accessibility in planning for Orland's future.

Orland resident Renee Drake asked questions regarding the existing flagpole holes downtown.

County resident Kristi Rumble thanked Caltrans for the project but emphasized that downtown parking is more critical than adding bike lanes or trees. She also shared her concerns about landscaping elements and stated her opposition to the proposed roundabout.

Orland resident Alex Enriquez acknowledged the importance of bike lanes in securing project funding and asked Caltrans to consider installing protected bike lanes for enhanced safety.

Mr. Denton expressed his appreciation for the community's growth.

Orland resident George Martinez, a professional truck driver, raised concerns about the impact of bike lanes on available travel width of Walker Street.

Mr. Hackett spoke in support of bike lanes and roundabouts, noting that they contribute to public safety and reflect Caltrans' commitment to Orland's long-term needs.

Orland resident Dennis Hoffman shared concerns about emergency vehicle turning radii. While supportive of the roundabout concept, he encouraged Caltrans to meet with the City's public safety personnel to address operational needs.

The Council agreed that Orland serves as a major commercial corridor and expressed interest in bringing GHD, Caltrans, and City staff together to discuss the proposed roundabout near the freeway. The Council thanked Caltrans for their presentation and stated that they look forward to continued collaboration on the Walker Complete Streets project.

PUBLIC HEARING

A. Title 17 Zoning Ordinance Text Amendment – Review and Recommend the addition of text to General Commercial (C-2) Section of the Orland Municipal Code (OMC) Title 17 to differentiate the difference between residential uses generally (17.40.040(D) and Dwellings located on the second floor (17.40.030(A)(7)) of commercial structures specifically.

City Planner Lisa Lozier presented a report on Zoning Code Amendment ZCA 2025-05, which proposes clarifying residential use regulations in the Community Commercial (C-2) District. The amendment would:

- Update Section 17.40.040(D) to reference Section 17.40.030(A)(7) regarding second-floor dwellings.
- Revise Section 17.40.030(A)(7) to read: "Dwellings, second floor and above."

The amendment is intended to resolve conflicts in the zoning code by distinguishing general residential uses, which require a Conditional Use Permit, from second-floor dwellings, which may be approved administratively.

Ms. Lozier briefly spoke about the background sharing In March 2025, the Planning Commission approved CUP 2024-02 for a second-floor residential unit at 715 4th Street. Questions arose regarding which residential uses require a Conditional Use Permit versus administrative approval. Staff reported that Section 17.40.020 does not list residential uses as principal uses in the C-2 District. Section 17.40.030(A)(7) allows second-floor dwellings administratively, while Section 17.40.040 requires CUPs for other residential uses. The proposed amendment clarifies that second-floor dwellings are administratively approved, ensuring consistency in permitting.

Ms. Lozier stated that the Planning Commission conducted a public hearing; no public comments were received. The Commission found the amendment exempt from CEQA under the "General Rule" (Section 15061(b)(3)) due to no potential environmental impact (4-0 vote). PC Resolution 2025-06 was adopted, recommending the amendment to City Council for approval (4-0 vote).

Mayor Romano opened the Public Hearing at 7:50 P.M.

Mr. Hoffman asked questions regarding whether the amendment would have any restrictions on 2nd story businesses. Ms. Lozier shared it would depend on the layout of the property in regards to how the dwelling and 2nd floor interact with each other.

The mayor closed the public hearing at 7:53 P.M.

Councilmember Barr moved, seconded by Vice Mayor Tolle, to introduce Ordinance 2025-05 read by title only and to waive further reading of the ordinance. Motion carried by a voice vote 4-0.

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

Consider Planning Commission Appointment

City Clerk Jennifer Schmitke requested guidance from the Council regarding the appointment to a vacant Planning Commission seat (four-year term) following a resignation in July 2025. The appointment would fill the remainder of the term, expiring December 31, 2028. Ms. Schmitke reported that, after several months of advertising, the City received three applications from qualified candidates: Bruce T. Roundy, Claire Arano, and Tyler Rutledge.

Ms. Schmitke noted that the Planning Commission Chair reviewed all applications and submitted a recommendation to the Mayor for consideration.

Ms. Ponce expressed her support for considering Bruce Roundy, citing his decades of experience and deep understanding of Orland.

Councilmember McDermott thanked the Planning Commission Chair for reviewing all applicants and stated he was in favor of Tyler Rutledge.

ACTION: Councilmember McDermott moved, seconded by Councilmember Barr, to approve Tyler Rutledge for the Planning Commission seat vacancy. Motion carried by a voice vote 4-0.

Process for Filling City Council Vacancy - Councilmember Smith Resignation

City Attorney Scott Drexel reported that Councilmember Brandon Smith resigned effective November 5, 2025, creating a vacancy on the City Council. Under California Government Code Section 36512(b), the Council must fill the vacancy within 60 days, by either appointment or special election, with a deadline of January 4, 2026.

Mr. Drexel outlined the options: an appointment would serve until the next general municipal election on November 3, 2026, following an application and interview process; or a special election could be held on the earliest available regular election date, June 2, 2026, with the winner serving the remainder of the term. The City Clerk has already issued a public notice soliciting applications to allow time for public participation and Council review.

Councilmembers discussed and asked questions regarding the costs associated with holding a special election.

Mr. Enriquez addressed the Council, requesting consideration for appointment to the vacant seat as the first runner-up in the recent election. He briefly introduced himself and shared his vision for the community.

Orland residents Coreen Deleon, Sharon Lazorko, and Ms. Rumble each expressed their support for appointing the first runner-up to fill the vacancy.

Ms. Ponce voiced concerns about the City's process, noting her belief that residents should have the opportunity to elect their representatives.

Ms. Walker also shared her support for Mr. Enriquez.

Mr. Denton provided comments regarding the special election option.

The Council further discussed whether they had the authority to appoint Mr. Enriquez. Mr. Drexel clarified that the decision rests entirely with the Council, and that they may appoint any qualified individual. He explained that the selection must be placed on a future agenda for a formal vote and that City staff will forward all applications received. He also noted that any appointment would be temporary, lasting only until the next regular election, at which point the appointee would need to run for the seat.

Councilmembers also discussed the option of holding a special election, but agreed it would be preferable to appoint someone now rather than leave the seat vacant for seven months, emphasizing the value of having a full five-member Council seated.

Councilmember McDermott expressed his support for Alex Enriquez.

The Council requested that the meeting be rescheduled from December 4th to December 2nd to coincide with the regular City Council meeting.

ACTION: Councilmember McDermott moved, seconded by Vice Mayor Tolle to proceed with Councilmember selection at the next Council meeting on December 2nd. Motion carried by a voice vote 4-0.

Consideration of a resolution to adopt a City purchasing, procurement and reimbursement policy

City Attorney Scott Drexel presented the proposed comprehensive Purchasing and Contracting Policy, which consolidates existing City purchasing procedures and ensures compliance with state law, including Assembly Bill 1234 for expense reimbursements. The policy outlines procurement thresholds consistent with the Orland Municipal Code, updates public works thresholds under the California Uniform Public Construction Cost Accounting Act (CUPCCAA), and establishes clear guidelines for employee and official expense reimbursements.

Mr. Denton asked what the City currently does, and Mr. Drexel shared that currently they just follow the law; this policy will be something the City can formally follow when dealing with purchasing procurement. Mr. Drexel shared that the City's insurance company was requiring it and that the policy was created.

ACTION: Vice Mayor Tolle moved, seconded by Councilmember McDermott to adopt resolution 2025-18 for the comprehensive purchasing and contracting policy and expense reimbursement policy and compliance with AB1234. Motion carried by a voice vote 4-0.

City Council discussion and possible action for Glenn County Notice and Order for Orland City Dump

City Engineer Paul Rabo updated the Council on the Orland City Dump, where inspections by Glenn County Environmental Health identified erosion along Stony Creek exposing old burn waste, raising potential water quality and public health concerns. A July 16, 2025 Notice and Order cited violations for drainage, erosion control, and slope stability and outlined three corrective actions.

Mr. Rabo presented a Geo-Logic report with three remediation alternatives: (1) Stabilization and Scour Protection, (2) Gabion Retaining Wall Creek Bank Restoration, and (3) Clean Closure. The County requested that the City evaluate the alternatives and prepare a Corrective Action Plan, including a preferred alternative and timeline. Permitting may take over a year, after which improvement plans will be prepared, and construction contracts awarded.

The Council reviewed the costs associated with the three available options and discussed which approach would best serve the City. The Council directed staff to prepare a corrective action plan and submit a grant application. Once the level of grant funding is known, the Council will proceed with either Option 1 or Option 2, depending on available resources.

First Reading of Ordinance No.2025-06 Amending Chapter 10.32 of the Orland Municipal Code Relating to Abandoned, Wrecked, Dismantled, and Inoperative Vehicles

Chief Vlach provided an update on the City's abandoned vehicle ordinance (Chapter 10.32), noting it is outdated and not fully compliant with California Vehicle Code requirements. He highlighted the public health, safety, and community impacts of abandoned vehicles and explained that state law authorizes local agencies to abate them as public nuisances.

The proposed ordinance amendment would update definitions and procedures, establish a partnership with Glenn County's Service Authority for Abandoned Vehicles Abatement (SAAV) program for funding, implement administrative cost recovery, maintain due process protections, and allow expedited removal of vehicles posing immediate threats. The program is designed to be cost-neutral, funded through SAAV allocations, administrative fees, and, if needed, property tax liens.

Councilmember Barr asked for clarification on if the City allows junk dealers. Chief Vlach shared he would need to review the municipal code. Councilmember McDermott shared his support for the Ordinance, sharing it would be a great tool for the City.

Mr. Denton asked a question regarding a lot that has old cars on Hwy 99. Mayor Romano shared that the City could look into the lot.

Ms. Drake asked questions about project cars that are sitting on properties and shared her concerns about property being removed from private property. Mr. Drexel spoke about due process notification rights.

Vice Mayor Tolle shared that OPD will give notices about nuisance vehicles, and there is a process to keep your property clean.

Mayor Romano shared that this ordinance is an update that coincides with State law, it isn't new just an update.

ACTION: Councilmember McDermott moved, seconded by Vice Mayor Tolle to introduce the ordinance 2025-06 amending Chapter 10.32 of the municipal Code relating to abandoned, wrecked, dismantled, and inoperative vehicles. Motion carried by a voice vote 4-0.

Consideration to form an Ad Hoc Committee for Community Enrichment

City Manager Joe Goodman reported that staff and the Mayor met with community members to discuss ways to celebrate Orland's cultural heritage. Following the meeting, community representatives requested continued dialogue and actions promoting inclusivity and cultural pride.

To support this collaboration while complying with the Brown Act, staff recommended the Council establish an Ad Hoc Committee for Community Enrichment. The committee would include City Council members, representatives from City commissions, local organizations, and community members, and would explore cultural initiatives, review proposals for celebrations and projects, evaluate funding opportunities, and provide recommendations to City staff and the full Council.

Ms. Deleon thanked the Council for bringing the item forward and expressed support for future opportunities.

Orland resident Carolyn Denton inquired about who would be eligible to participate and which organizations could join the committee.

Mr. Lane asked whether there would be a minimum or maximum number of members and whether the meetings would be formal or informal. Mr. Drexel clarified that the group would function as an informal Council subcommittee and would not require formal agendas.

Mr. Hackett voiced his support for establishing the ad hoc committee.

Ms. Ponce thanked the Mayor and City Manager for advancing the committee's formation.

ACTION: Councilmember McDermott moved, seconded by Vice Mayor Tolle, to approve the formation of the ad hoc committee for community enrichment, to collaborate with community representatives on initiatives celebrating Orland's cultural diversity. Motion carried by a voice vote 4-0.

Glenn Medical Center Closure Impact Study Cost Share Update

City Manager Joe Goodman provided an update on the regional impact study related to the closure of Glenn Medical Center's emergency department. He reminded the Council that the City previously committed \$15,000 as part of a cost-sharing agreement with Glenn County and the City of Willows to evaluate impacts on police, fire, and emergency medical services.

Mr. Goodman reported that the County's RFP process resulted in two qualified proposals, with the lowest bid totaling \$48,000—\$3,000 above the original estimate. To proceed with the contract, each partner agency would need to contribute an additional \$1,000.

Mayor Romano emphasized the importance of maintaining this essential community service and shared concerns that the County's exploration of a countywide ambulance model could jeopardize the future viability of Westside Ambulance, particularly its ability to serve the north end of the county.

ACTION: Vice Mayor Tolle moved, seconded by Councilmember Barr, to authorize the City Manager to approve the additional \$1,000 from Measure J funds toward the shared cost of the Glenn Medical Center impact study. Motion carried by a voice vote 4-0.

City Manager Verbal Report

City Manager Joe Goodman provided the Council with an update on several ongoing projects throughout the community, noting the following highlights:

- Funding options and plans regarding the DWR well project and the Lely Well rebuild, as well as planned upgrades to water lines in the downtown area.

CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS

Councilmember McDermott:

- Reported attending the EDC meeting.
- Requested that the City explore options for upgrading its recording system, expressing frustration that the current video and internet quality is inadequate for residents who watch meetings from home.

Councilmember Barr:

- Had nothing to report.

Vice Mayor Tolle:

- Asked if City Staff had heard from Pioneer Energy, Mr. Goodman shared that he would reach out to them.

Mayor Romano:

- Had nothing to report.

MEETING ADJOURNED 9:38 PM

Jennifer Schmitke, City Clerk

Mathew Romano, Mayor



ORLAND CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday, January 20, 2026

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Terrie Barr at 6:01 PM.

ROLL CALL

Councilmembers Present: Councilmembers John McDermott, JC Tolle, Matt Romano, and Mayor Terrie Barr

Councilmembers Absent: Vice Mayor Alex Enriquez

Staff Present: City Manager Joe Goodman, City Clerk Jennifer Schmitke
Arrived at 6:30: Police Chief Joe Vlach, Fire Chief Justin Chaney, City Attorney Scott Drexel

CITIZENS COMMENTS ON CLOSED SESSION - None

MEETING ADJOURNED TO CLOSED SESSION AT 6:02 PM.

CLOSED SESSION ENDED AND RECONVENED TO REGULAR SESSION AT 6:30 PM.

REPORT FROM CLOSED SESSION - Mayor Barr announced that Council met with City Staff and City Attorney Scott Drexel regarding real property negotiations, as noted on the Closed Session agenda. Mayor Barr shared that there was no reportable action.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Orland resident Sharon Lazorko provided the Council with information on the New California State initiative and distributed informational flyers.

County resident Valerie Johnson addressed the Council, stating that she and Hidden Treasures Sanctuary are ready for the feline ad hoc committee to meet and discuss the voucher program.

CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. Warrant List (Payable Obligations)
- B. Approve City Council Minutes from January 6, 2026
- C. Receive and File the Economic Development Commission Minutes from November 12, 2026

- D. Receive and File Library Commission Minutes from November 10, 2025
- E. Approve Purchase of Wrestling Mat for Rec Center
- F. Consider Ball Field Improvement Budget
- G. Treasurer's Report

ACTION: Councilmember McDermott moved, seconded by Councilmember Tolle, to approve the consent calendar as presented. Motion carried by a voice vote 4-0.

PRESENTATIONS

Police Department Annual Presentation

Chief Vlach delivered a slideshow presentation highlighting the Orland Police Department's (OPD) activities and accomplishments for 2025. The department currently operates with 10 patrol officers, including one K-9 unit and one School Resource Officer (SRO), supported by 2 sergeants and 1 Chief of Police. OPD has successfully filled all non-sworn positions, including an Administrative/Records Supervisor, a Property and Evidence/Community Service Officer (CSO) – Isreal Rivera is currently in the police academy, and a Public Safety Clerk.

Chief Vlach reported that OPD responded to a total of 4,241 incidents in 2025, reflecting a slight decrease from 4,424 incidents in 2024. The most common calls for service included suspicious circumstances, vehicles or persons, followed by disturbing the peace and welfare checks.

Regarding enforcement activity, the most frequently issued citations were for unlicensed or suspended driving (46 citations), speeding (32 citations), expired vehicle registration (33 citations), and failure to stop at stop signs (24 citations). Traffic collisions increased slightly in 2025, with 128 reported incidents, including 119 non-injury collisions and nine injury-related collisions.

Chief Vlach reported that the OPD K-9 Unit, unfortunately, lost K-9 Dutch during the year. Despite this loss, the program continued to perform at a high level, completing more than 289 training hours and participating in eight deployments, which included three narcotics searches, two article searches with finds, and six suspect surrenders.

Chief Vlach also recognized the Orland Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS) for their contributions, noting that despite a decrease in membership, the 12 active volunteers donated 832 hours of service. VIPS members supported numerous community events, including vaccination clinics, parades, the Glenn County Fair, Orland High School's Sober Grad Night, and the Avenue of Lights. Chief Vlach expressed appreciation for their continued dedication and positive impact on the department and the community.

Looking ahead, Chief Vlach outlined departmental goals, including the recruitment of additional patrol staff. Once staffing levels increase, OPD will explore the potential creation of a detective or lieutenant position. Continued collaboration with the Orland Fire Department remains a priority, particularly through the radio infrastructure project and future phases of surveillance and keycard access improvements.

Councilmember McDermott thanked the VIPs, Orland Police officers, and Chief Vlach for their service to the community and expressed support for the continued work on the radio project.

Councilmember Tolle also thanked the Police Department and VIPs, inquired about Council participation in police training, and discussed enforcement topics with Chief Vlach, including red light cameras, on which the Chief expressed mixed views. Chief Vlach indicated his interest in inviting Councilmembers to participate in future training opportunities.

Mayor Barr expressed appreciation for Chief Vlach and the Police Department, asked about the reduction in DUI enforcement activity, and inquired about staffing and detective services. Chief Vlach responded by noting multiple contributing factors and provided an overview of ongoing officer training.

Fire Department Annual Presentation

Chief Chaney delivered a slide presentation outlining the Fire Department's 2025 activities, highlighting key accomplishments and future objectives. The Orland Volunteer Fire Department (OVFD) currently operates with 50 volunteers, supported by one full-time office assistant, two assistant chiefs and one head chief. In 2025, the department responded to a total of 660 calls, including 355 calls within city limits (134 medical, 26 fire, and 16 vehicle collision incidents) and 305 calls in rural areas.

Chief Chaney highlighted progress made within the current budget year, including the replacement of critical firefighting equipment: eight sets of turnouts, eight structural helmets, eight pairs of structural boots, and necessary hose replacements. The department also acquired four mobile radios and four portable radios to improve communication capabilities. Additional completed projects included a roof replacement (with help from the rural department funding), replacement of the SCBA compressor, and repaving of the fire department parking lot.

The Council was informed that the average OVFD volunteer dedicates approximately 125 hours annually to training, reflecting a strong commitment to readiness and public safety.

Looking ahead, Chief Chaney outlined departmental goals, which include pursuing grant opportunities, completing the radio infrastructure project, and continuing to enhance communication capabilities.

Councilmember Tolle thanked the volunteer firefighters and inquired about training opportunities for the City Council, with Chief Chaney indicating that live fire trainings would be appropriate to observe. Councilmember Tolle also asked about volunteer firefighter stipends and the availability of training and support related to critical incidents. Chief Chaney explained the department's stipend programs and noted that while the department provides training, tools, and support, exposure to traumatic incidents has impacted firefighters.

Councilmember McDermott thanked the Fire Department for its service, emphasized the challenges firefighters face, expressed interest in increasing stipends in the future, and noted that the volunteer fire program provides significant cost savings to the City.

Mayor Barr requested additional information regarding stipends and expressed a desire to prioritize volunteer firefighters by incorporating stipend needs into future budget planning. Chief Chaney stated he would discuss stipends further with the volunteers.

County resident Jake Hackett addressed the Council regarding the importance of dedicated mental health funding for first responders. Chief Chaney responded that while there is no dedicated mental health budget, support is provided through workers' compensation programs. Councilmember McDermott added that firefighters also have access to the City's Employee Assistance Program, critical incident stress debriefing services, and support from a local chaplain.

Mayor Barr asked about additional infrastructure in need of updates. Chief Chaney responded that the downtown area is the most critical and noted that once the alley project and new pump and tank are completed, staff plans to retest hydrants and use that data to help identify the next priority areas.

Orland resident and 14-year Orland Volunteer Fire Department veteran Nathan Monck addressed the Council regarding the importance of Fire Department personnel. He emphasized that Measure A funds should be used in accordance with voter intent, expressed concerns about the staff report related to Measure A, and stated his hope that all department heads were involved in its preparation. Mr. Monck also reminded the Council of the oath taken upon assuming office.

County resident and 30-year Orland Volunteer Fire Department veteran David Kelly addressed the Council and expressed frustration regarding what he perceived as a lack of acknowledgment of the Fire Department by Councilmember Romano. Mr. Kelly expressed concerns regarding comments Councilmember Romano had made about the Fire Department at other meetings and noted that Councilmember Romano had not experienced difficulty engaging with the department when seeking support during his election. He further expressed concern that the Council does not regularly engage with the Fire Department to better understand its operational needs.

Mr. Kelly emphasized that the Fire Chief and volunteer leadership should play a primary role in developing the department's budget prior to Council consideration. He urged the Council to preserve Measure A funds and to use them in accordance with voter intent, stating that funding decisions should be based on a clear understanding of the department's actual needs. Mr. Kelly concluded by stating that the Fire Department should be supported and appreciated rather than opposed.

Councilmember Romano responded, stating that he is committed to protecting the Fire Department and dedicated public safety funding. He explained that the numbers in the staff report were based on last year's budget and that he also reviewed budgets from the past seven years. Councilmember Romano emphasized that the Fire Department has always had the opportunity to speak with him. The City Attorney advised that further discussion on these matters should take place during the budget portion of the agenda.

Orland resident and Orland Volunteer Fire Department veteran Jerry Kraemer addressed the Council regarding the importance of securing organizational buy-in, from the Fire Chief through department members, then through City staff and ultimately to the Council. He shared a personal example from his time as Fire Chief in which a lack of buy-in negatively impacted the department and cautioned the Council against repeating that outcome.

Chief Justin Chaney addressed the Council, directly confronting Councilmember Romano over alleged false statements regarding the Fire Department and a confidential memo. Chief Chaney expressed frustration about perceived misrepresentation in the staff report and defended the department's integrity.

Orland resident and Orland Volunteer Fire Department veteran Dusty Lefdal addressed the Council regarding Fire Chief Chaney's dedication and passion for the Fire Department. He expressed concern that the City Manager had not visited the department during the six months since his appointment. Mr. Lefdal also noted that while Councilmembers often visit the department during election periods, follow-up visits have been limited, and stated that continued engagement helps volunteers feel appreciated. He emphasized that Measure A was approved due to the efforts of Fire Department volunteers and urged the Council to use the funds responsibly and in accordance with voter intent.

Orland resident and Orland Volunteer Fire Department veteran Gary Campbell remarked that Measure A was passed on the strong support of the Fire Department and stressed the need for transparency regarding how the funds are allocated. He noted that Measure A was intended to support both law enforcement and fire services. Mr. Campbell also expressed concern about the City considering property purchases while operating under a current budget deficit.

Orland resident and 49-year Orland Volunteer Fire Department veteran Bart Caster, who served as Fire Chief when Measure A was passed, highlighted the importance of preserving Measure A funds as originally approved by the community. He explained to the Council that the Fire Department budget is critical for firefighter safety, including equipment and tools that protect volunteers from serious illnesses, diseases, and other hazards associated with firefighting. Mr. Caster emphasized that ensuring volunteer safety must remain a top priority.

Orland resident Barbara Marzolf asked for clarification on the current revenue generated by Measure A, and Mayor Barr stated that it brings in approximately \$1.3 million annually. Ms. Marzolf inquired what portion of that revenue the Fire Department would continue to receive and asked if the department would still receive 66 percent. Mayor Barr responded that a detailed answer would be provided during the upcoming budget discussion.

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

Second Quarter Budget Update and Adjustments

City Manager Joe Goodman presented a second-quarter budget update for the General Fund, Measure A, and Measure J as of December 31, 2025. He reported that while property tax revenues had not yet been received and sales tax was slightly behind projections, two unbudgeted revenue sources totaling \$287,400 were identified, reducing the General Fund deficit to \$242,373. Mr. Goodman discussed efforts to reduce General Fund pressures, emphasized disciplined use of Measure A and Measure J funds consistent with voter intent, and proposed budget guidelines for those measures. He also noted a funding shortfall for ambulance services and requested a \$95,600 supplemental appropriation from Measure J to maintain service through June 30, 2026. The update concluded with an outline of steps to improve budget planning, transparency, and fiscal accountability.

Councilmember McDermott discussed the Fire and Police Chiefs' willingness to allow Measure A funds to assist Public Works with fire hydrant and related street repairs as part of public safety infrastructure. Councilmember Romano asked whether Measure A funds could be used for water line improvements tied to public safety needs. Councilmember McDermott noted rising Fire Department costs and clarified that, historically, "streets" under Measure A includes fire hydrants and related infrastructure rather than road paving. He added that many hydrants have outdated connections unsuitable for modern firefighting and emphasized the Fire Department's practice of saving funds and purchasing equipment and vehicles outright.

Councilmember Romano stated that he has consistently worked to protect dedicated public safety funds and opposed using those funds for General Fund purposes. He highlighted his long-standing support for Westside Ambulance, including serving on the ambulance ad hoc committee and advancing funding for expanded ambulance service. He also noted his advocacy for reinstating the Fire Department roof replacement into the budget after it was removed. Councilmember Romano expressed concern about proposals to use Measure A and Measure J funds for non-public safety purposes, emphasized the need to preserve these funds for public safety infrastructure, including a future public

safety facility, and reiterated his support for expanding police services despite ongoing funding challenges.

Councilmember McDermott addressed rising costs within the Fire Department and clarified that, in the context of Measure A, the term “streets” has historically included fire hydrants and related infrastructure, not road paving. He explained that the Fire Department previously extended an “olive branch” to Public Works by agreeing to fund hydrant replacements through Measure A, noting that many of the City’s hydrants have outdated two-and-a-half-inch connections that are inadequate for modern firefighting needs. He also shared that the Fire Department takes pride in saving funds and paying cash for equipment and fleet purchases.

Mayor Barr spoke regarding the budget process and the overall intent of the Council.

Mr. Goodman apologized and stated that it was not his intention to create negative feelings among staff or the Council, adding that this was his first attempt at developing a balanced budget for Fiscal Year 2026/2027.

Councilmember Tolle asked questions regarding facilities funding outside of public safety. Mr. Goodman explained that when budgets are reduced, cuts often affect the upkeep and maintenance of existing City-owned facilities. Councilmember Tolle expressed concern about the potential use of Measure J funds and questioned whether funds were being shifted to buildings that have been deferred for many years. He further stated his concern about using Measure J funds for items that were not discussed with voters at the time the measure was presented.

Councilmember Tolle also asked whether Mr. Goodman had reviewed the budget numbers with department heads prior to submitting the staff report. Mr. Goodman responded that he had not yet met with department heads and was presenting the information to the Council for direction. Councilmember Tolle expressed disappointment, noting that the Council had previously directed Mr. Goodman to meet with all department heads to “sharpen the pencil.” While acknowledging that Mr. Goodman is new to the role, Councilmember Tolle emphasized the importance of utilizing the expertise of department heads and meeting with the Council as a whole rather than individually with Councilmembers.

Mayor Barr defended Mr. Goodman, stating that he had inherited a challenging situation and should not be criticized for a first effort to provide the financial information requested by the Council.

Following discussion, the Council directed the City Manager to meet individually with each department head to work toward development of a balanced budget for this year and next.

Commissioner appointments

City Clerk Jennifer Schmitke requested direction from the Council regarding appointments to the Library, Economic Development, Recreation, and Planning Commissions. Ms. Schmitke noted that for the Economic Development Commission and Planning Commission, the respective Chairs had reviewed multiple applications and submitted their recommendations to Mayor Barr. Ms. Schmitke then reviewed each vacant seat by commission, after which the Council discussed each appointment and made their determination.

The Planning Commission had one vacant seat with three interested applicants: Daniel Louder, Conner Fleak, and Andy Ramirez (who withdrew his application upon appointment to the Recreation Commission).

Daniel Louder stepped forward to introduce himself to Council.

ACTION: Mayor Barr moved, seconded by Councilmember Romano, to appoint Daniel Louder to the Planning Commission vacancy. Motion carried by voice vote, 4-0.

Ms. Lazorko asked if Mr. Louder could participate in the meeting on January 22nd, Mr. Drexel stated he could do that and he would be sworn in by the City Clerk.

The Recreation Commission had one vacant seat with one interested applicant, Andy Ramirez.

ACTION: Councilmember McDermott moved, seconded by Councilmember Tolle, to appoint Andy Ramirez to the Recreation Commission vacancy. Motion carried by voice vote, 4-0.

The Economic Development Commission had one vacant seat with two interested applicants, Sarah Bosley and Froylan Mendoza.

EDC Chairperson Lane came forward to explain his recommendation to Council.

ACTION: Councilmember McDermott moved, seconded by Councilmember Romano, to appoint Froylan Mendoza to the Economic Development Commission vacancy. Motion carried by voice vote, 4-0.

The Library Commission had two vacant seats with one interested applicant, Deborah Fogarty.

ACTION: Mayor Barr moved, seconded by Councilmember Tolle, to appoint Deborah Fogarty to a vacant Library Commission seat. Motion carried by voice vote, 4-0.

California Voting Rights Act (CVRA) – Approval of Professional Services Agreement with National Demographics Corporation for Election Districting Services

City Attorney Scott Drexel presented a report requesting City Council approval of a Professional Services Agreement with National Demographics Corporation (NDC) to provide election districting and demographic consulting services related to the City's transition from at-large to district-based City Council elections pursuant to the California Voting Rights Act.

City Attorney Drexel noted that on December 2, 2025, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 2025-20 declaring its intent to transition to district-based elections and directed staff to retain a qualified demographer and return with implementation recommendations. National Demographics Corporation was identified as the recommended consultant due to its extensive experience providing districting services to California cities.

The proposed agreement includes development of draft district maps, demographic analysis, public outreach and participation tools, preparation of required reports, management of a project website, and virtual attendance at the required public hearings.

The agreement includes a not-to-exceed amount of \$31,000, which is within the previously identified cost range for a voluntary transition. City Attorney Drexel noted the reduced cost reflects the City's population size and the use of virtual meetings.

County resident Jake Hackett shared his support for using National Demographics Corporation and asked questions regarding the maps. Mr. Drexel shared that once NDC is on board they would be able to help with specific questions .

Mr. Lane asked that if the item is mandated by the State, why the State is not providing funding for it.

Orland resident Janet Jonte thanked the Council for keeping costs low by conducting the meetings virtually. Ms. Jonte stated that she looks forward to learning more about the districting maps and thanked the Council for staying on track and keeping the public informed. She also expressed appreciation for the Police and Fire Departments for their service to the community.

ACTION: Councilmember McDermott moved, seconded by Councilmember Tolle, 1. Approve the Professional Services Agreement with National Demographics Corporation for election districting services in an amount not to exceed \$31,000; and 2. Authorize the City Manager to execute the Agreement and any necessary amendments within the approved budget . Motion carried by a voice vote, 4-0.

City Manager Verbal Report

City Manager Joe Goodman provided the City Council with an update on several ongoing matters throughout the community, including the following:

- The Walker Street well project is underway, and staff continues to seek grant funding to help offset project costs.
- The alleyway water infrastructure project between 3rd/4th Streets and 4th/5th Streets is scheduled to begin on January 26, 2025.
- A hazardous materials survey for the Carnegie Building and the building at 824 Fourth Street is scheduled to begin on January 26, 2025. The survey is expected to take approximately three days to complete, with the final report anticipated within two to three weeks.
- Plan check drawings for the Carnegie Center have been received by City staff and are currently under review.
- A possible future agenda item to consider could be downtown parking enforcement, including the potential implementation of a two-hour parking limit to increase turnover and improve access for patrons.
- A possible future agenda item to consider could be to address landscaping improvements around the water tank and the Walker Street lot. Staff is considering issuing a Request for Proposals (RFP) for both areas to enhance and beautify the downtown area, a topic that has been discussed at several Economic Development Commission meetings.

CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS

Councilmember McDermott:

- Requested discussion of a potential pollinator park and suggested developing conceptual drawings for a park that would include restroom facilities. He noted that a dedicated group of local volunteers is available to assist in completing the project at a low cost.
- Expressed support for the proposed two-hour downtown parking enforcement.

- Requested that the City Manager maintain open communication with all department heads, emphasizing the importance of transparency and collaboration.
- Suggested greater utilization of the City's Commissions to better leverage Commissioner expertise and improve efficiency, thereby saving Council time.

Mayor Barr:

- Thanked community members for attending the meeting and providing public input.

Councilmember Romano:

- Reported no items.

Councilmember Tolle:

- Stated that tense budget discussion could have been avoided through earlier communication with department heads.
- Reported that the Chamber of Commerce is now meeting quarterly and will be scaling back events moving forward.

MEETING ADJOURNED 9:39 PM

Jennifer Schmitke, City Clerk

Terrie Barr, Mayor